

Critics of Sunday opening may be given hours deal

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

A compromise allowing shops to open for up to four hours on Sundays is under discussion at the Home Office as a means of appeasing critics of the Shops Bill.

Tomorrow Soft sell at the cinema

The soft drink, car or cigarette used by the star in the latest film is not there by accident. Product placement has become big business for the admen...

Portfolio Saturday's £20,000 weekly prize

The Times Portfolio competition was won by Mr W Underwood, of Stoke Poges Bucks. Today's daily competition prize is doubled to £4,000 because there was no winner on Saturday.

Small firm jobs boost

Small businesses have created up to 1.1 million jobs in Britain since 1980, according to a survey by the Small Business Research Trust.

Heart check Lord Shinwell

Lord Shinwell, the Labour peer, aged 101, was admitted to the Royal Free Hospital, London, on Saturday to have his heart pacemaker checked.

Miners march More than 5,000 miners

More than 5,000 miners and supporters marched through London yesterday to win reinstatement for 500 men sacked in the miners' strike and freedom for 10 still in prison.

Liverpool win Liverpool maintained their challenge

Liverpool maintained their challenge for the Football League championship when a last-minute goal by Ian Rush gave them a 2-1 win at Tottenham Hotspur.

SPECIAL REPORT table with columns: Home News, Overseas, Arts, Bridge, Business, Court, Crosswords, Daily Features, Law Report, Leaders, Letters, Pagan Bonds, Religion, Science, Sport, Theatres, TV & Radio, Weather.

Ulster extremists wield strike power

Protestant extremists are attempting to outmanoeuvre the leaders of the two main Unionist parties in Northern Ireland with plans for further action on top of the strike which they hope will paralyse the province today.

Minister says protest will hit economy

Mr Tom King, the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, last night described today's 24-hour strike in the province as pointless, and again gave a warning that its only outcome would be to damage the economy.

Missing girl's father is questioned

The father of a missing girl, aged six, was interviewed for the third time yesterday as hundreds of people turned up to conduct a search.



Mr Ingvar Carlsson (right), the acting Swedish Prime Minister, under police escort in Stockholm yesterday.

MPs urge more winter aid for aged

Senior Conservative MPs are urging the Government to make special provision to help old people cope with the freezing weather.

Murder in Nablus halts peace bid

One of the rare Palestinian leaders prepared to talk to Israel was shot dead yesterday - and with him died any chance of negotiating an early peace settlement in the area.

Palme's murder 'a jigsaw with very small pieces'

The killer of the Swedish Prime Minister, Mr Olof Palme, was still at large last night, with police baffled by the carefully planned and executed assassination.

Buy-out move for Land Rover

The management of Land Rover has submitted a firm bid for the company which is under threat of a takeover by General Motors of the United States.

Hostage held by prisoners

Ten remanded prisoners at Strangeways Prison, Manchester were last night believed to be holding a fellow inmate hostage.

Ban on alluring brochures

Some prospectuses, often in the leisure field, have looked more like holiday brochures.

Oil price slide wipes out tax cut hopes

A oo-change Budget without big cuts in income tax is expected after the latest fall in oil prices.

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# Baker rejects calls to close Sellafield plant after latest leak

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

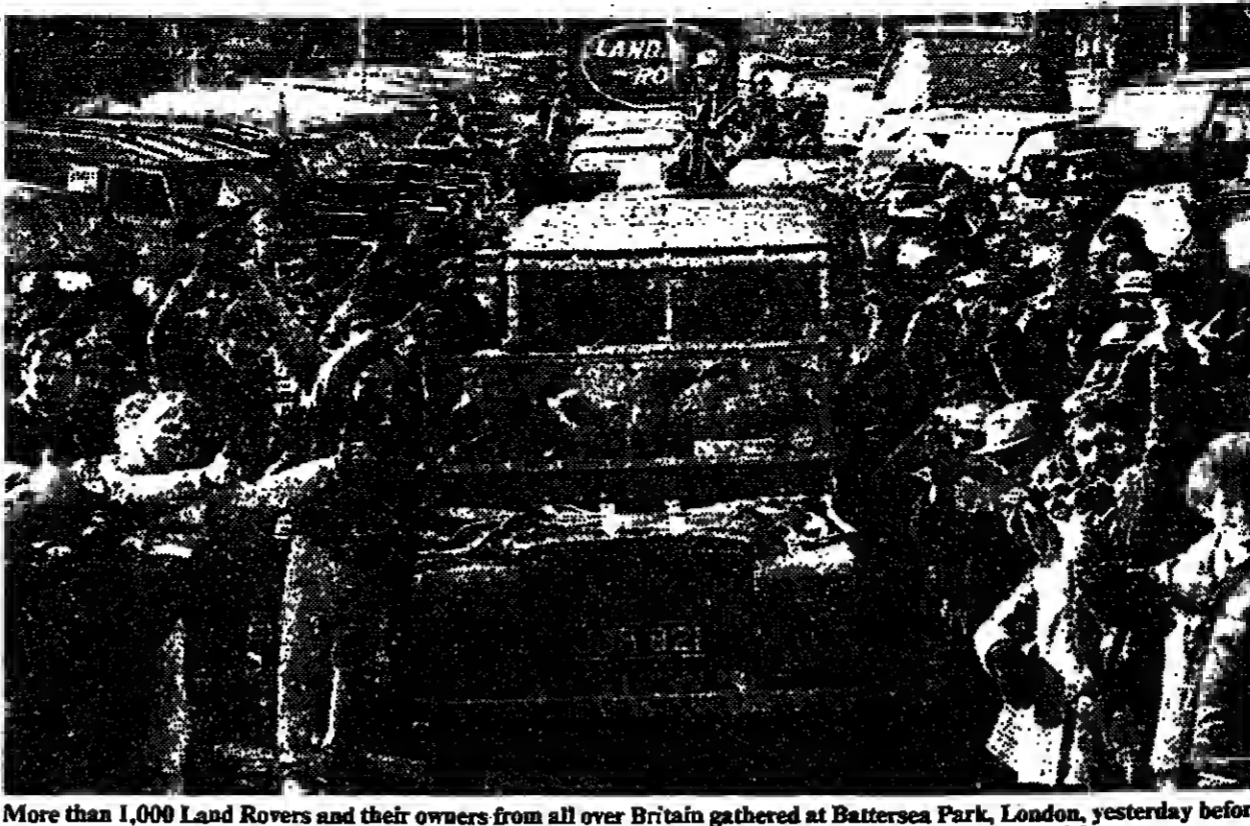
After the fourth leak in five weeks at the Sellafield nuclear plant in Cumbria, the Government said yesterday there was no case for closing the site. It was the most serious of the accidental discharges in the past five weeks. The material escaped through a seal of synthetic compound. Mr Kenneth Baker, Secretary of State for the Environment, defended British Nuclear Fuels in the television programme *This Week Next Week*. "This is the most regulated industry in the country. Fifteen Acts of Parliament relate to this industry," he said. "There are 150 inspectors, both inside the plants and outside. Very minor incidents have to be reported. They should not be exaggerated. And you cannot build up a case for closing the plant (Sellafield)."

# Strike gets backing of Powell

Mr Enoch Powell, the Ulster Unionist MP for South Down, has given his support to the 24-hour protest strike against the Anglo-Irish agreement as a lawful and legitimate form of expression. At the same time he gave a warning that it carried with it the risk of violence. Mr Powell, interviewed on the Channel 4 programme, *Face the Press*, said that if he were employed in Northern Ireland he would not go to work today. Nor did he believe that people in any other part of the United Kingdom would behave differently if the same thing had been done to them. He said that he did not justify or support anything which was in contravention of the law. Nothing, as far as he knew, which was being proposed today was unlawful. Asked whether he feared violence today, Mr Powell replied: "There is a risk of it. There must be where there are large crowds, and where there is strong feeling and excitement." But no politician could say that certain manifestations which were lawful, and which could be the occasion for violence, should not take place, he said.

# Ulster extremists wield strike power

Continued from page 1 by bodies known as the Ulster Clubs, formed last November specifically to combat the Anglo-Irish agreement. It is at this level that the most hard-line stance is being adopted. The leader of the Ulster Clubs is Mr Alan Wright, a 31-year-old unemployed electrician whose policeman father was killed in a bombing seven years ago. Today, Mr Wright represents the most extreme articulation of the Unionist position. He openly admits to standing at the interface of the Unionist politicians and the gunmen of the Protestant paramilitary organizations. "Politics has finished in Ulster. Politics has failed the loyalist community. There is no middle ground here any more. People are either for or against the agreement. Anyone who attempts to work is quite obviously declaring that they are for it," he said yesterday. He admitted that members of the Ulster Clubs had been telling shopkeepers and factory-owners that anyone who refused to close his premises today would be boycotted permanently. Belfast's newspapers said



More than 1,000 Land Rovers and their owners from all over Britain gathered at Battersea Park, London, yesterday before driving in convoy to Downing Street as part of the campaign to keep the company British.

# Crops hit worst by cold winds

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent. Winter-sown crops in the main arable areas of eastern England have been badly damaged by the prolonged spell of bitter, desiccating winds and the absence of snow to protect them from frosts. Mr Edmund Brown, a crop husbandry specialist of Framlingham, Norfolk, describes the position as critical. Cooled rape, which was planted later than usual because of the wet summer and delayed harvest, is in many places a write-off, he says. Although the full extent of the damage cannot be assessed until the ground thaws, Mr Brown believes that many wheat and barley fields will have to be redressed in the spring. The difficulties are likely to be compounded by a shortage of cereal seed. "In many ways it has been worse than in the other cold winters of 1947 and 1963, when there was much more snow around," he says. The National Farmers' Union is playing down suggestions of a crisis. Leeks and root vegetables cannot be harvested at present, and cauliflower and spring greens have suffered damage, but there are plenty of potatoes and other vegetables from store, and at this time of year imports normally take a large share of the market. The freezing spell has, however, brought extra work for livestock farmers, with the constant chore of supplying feed to animals left out to winter and breaking ice on drinking troughs.

# Ban on The Times faces court test

By a Staff Reporter. The refusal of certain public libraries to display copies of *The Times* and other News International publications may be challenged in the courts by a barrister who was denied access to the newspaper's law reports. Mr John Riley, who has chambers in Birmingham, was refused permission to see the newspaper in Lichfield public library because of a ban by Staffordshire County Council. Although its libraries continue to take the newspaper it is not being displayed out of sympathy with the 5,000 print workers who have been dismissed in the dispute over the transfer of the News International titles to the new print works at Wapping in east London. A number of other councils are operating similar bans which the Prime Minister last week condemned as tantamount to censorship. The prohibition also covers *The Sunday Times*, *The Sun*, *News of the World*, *The Times Educational Supplement*, and *Literary Supplement*. Mr Riley, a former Labour councillor, described the ban as petty censorship and said that if the council did not lift it he would consider an application to the courts to have the ban declared unlawful under section seven of the Public Libraries and Museums Act 1964. More than 2,000 protesters joined the pickets at the Wapping plant on Saturday night during the printing of *The Sunday Times* and the *News of the World*. Three police officers were injured in the demonstration during which 32 arrests were made for public order offences. Yesterday a management spokesman said that some lateness occurred because of heavy picketing, but that all deliveries had been made. *The Sunday Times* sent out 1,385,000 copies and the *News of the World* 5,317,000, complete print runs of both papers. News International is waiting for the TUC to fix a time for a meeting between them, he said.

# Ex-killer chosen as minister

The Rev James Nelson, a convicted murderer, was yesterday chosen as minister for two churches. It is the first time that the Church of Scotland has chosen a convicted killer as a minister. Mr Nelson was convicted in 1970, then aged 24, of murdering his mother by hitting her with a wooden baton and a brick. Yesterday morning he preached in both Chapelhall and Calderbank churches in Lanarkshire, and after the services the congregation voted by 283 to 76 in his favour. Mr Nelson was convicted in 1970, then aged 24, of murdering his mother by hitting her with a wooden baton and a brick. Yesterday morning he preached in both Chapelhall and Calderbank churches in Lanarkshire, and after the services the congregation voted by 283 to 76 in his favour.

# Vouchers could have kept peace in schools?

By George Hill. Education vouchers could have prevented the year-long teachers' strike by giving parents the power to move their children away from disrupted schools, a book published by the Institute of Economic Affairs claims today. The book, by Mr Arthur Seidman, the institute's former editorial director, asks whether the recent revival of interest in vouchers among ministers, so soon after Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education and Science, officially declared the idea dead in 1983, may be a result of the dispute. "If a device such as the voucher for enabling dissatisfied parents to move their children had been introduced, or even provisionally announced, in 1983 or 1984, it would have strengthened the bargaining power of the minister and improved the prospects of earlier settlement", Mr Seidman says. A number of ministerial hints have been made in recent months that the proposal is by no means dead, there was also clear indication from 10 Downing Street last week that Mrs Margaret Thatcher would favour its inclusion in the party's programme at the next election.

# Pay peace talks today

Talks aimed at solving the teachers' pay dispute are due to resume in London today with little sign of an agreement between the teaching unions involved. At the weekend Sir Keith Joseph called on teachers to end the "misery" of the dispute at today's talks.

# Killer tests on four dogs

Tests were being carried out last night to identify a dog which killed David Clarke, aged seven, who was found on Friday in a field near his home in Hoton, Leicestershire. Four dogs which may have been on the loose at the time have been examined by a vet, and hair and tooth imprints have been sent to forensic scientists. Mr Seldon says that longstanding hostility among officials at the Department of Education has caused action to be shelved in the past when ministers have shown an interest in it. "The obstacles appear not to be administrative impracticability but weakness of political conviction and will. The difficulties seen by the Department of Education in 1981-82 were based on defence of the status quo, maintenance of political and official control, and misunderstanding of the economics of education." He adds that the voucher system could be a "highly flexible device to emancipate the working classes locked into state education". It could be traded at a lower value in private than in state schools "to encourage contributions to their fees", and its value could be varied according to age and scholastic record. *The Riddle of the Voucher* (IEA, Lord North Street, SW1, £3.50).

# Head wins crossword eliminator

By John Grant, Crossword Editor. Mr Michael Wareham, headmaster of New Park School, St Andrews, Fifeshire, completed the four puzzles, without a mistake in an average of 14 minutes for each. Mr Michael Macdonald-Cooper, also aged 44, a freelance writer from Inchture, Perthshire, came second, a minute and a half per puzzle slower than the winner. He is a semi-finalist in this year's BBC *Mastermind* competition. Mr Wareham and Mr Macdonald-Cooper both go through to the national final in London in September. Mr J. Quick, aged 51, classics master at Dollar Academy, came third; and Mr R D Lyall, who lectures in law at the College of Further Education, Dundee, was fourth.

# BBC chairman gives licence fee warning

Mr Stuart Young, chairman of the BBC, yesterday defended the need for a licence fee, saying that abandoning it could lead to advertisers controlling all programme schedules. Mr Young told Cambridge University Conservative Association that some people thought it would be possible to fund the BBC from advertising without affecting the quality of television and radio programmes. Putting advertising on the BBC would have grave consequences, he said. "We have to remember first of all that the licence fee is not just an impost on the audience for the right to watch, or listen to, radio programmes." The licence fee, he means by which the BBC has remained independent in the very core and spirit of its activity, had kept it free from the sectional interests of advertisers. Mr Young continued: "It has been free from the promotional interests of sponsors and the political interest of governments. The licence fee underpins an entire broadcasting system, and it is a guarantee of range, quality and accountability throughout that system." "That might well not be the case if both halves of the national broadcasting structure were commercial, and if an advertiser or sponsor were able to say to both of them: 'Unless you make changes to your schedules and trim your programmes to my liking, the advertising on which you depend could be placed with your competitors...'

# Oil price threatens coal a year after miners' strike ended

By David Young, Energy Correspondent. Having spent a year restoring morale and increasing output in the pits, the National Coal Board management now faces the threat of having much of its growth work affected by a downturn among the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec). Opec's failure to agree on new output quotas has sent world crude oil prices down and with it the price of heavy fuel oil, coal's main competitor in the power generation and industrial markets. Ironically, the new atmosphere in the mines has meant output is running at more than three tonnes a man shift, the latest detailed statistics show that on February 15 this year it averaged 3.05 tonnes a man shift. The coal board is working towards breaking the four-tonne barrier and is avoiding setting output targets. It said: "We are a market-led industry and setting production targets is pointless. We now concentrate on productivity to get our prices down to what the market will bear." However, the price of heavy fuel oil on the Rotterdam markets has fallen to less than £90 a tonne, at anything below £102 a tonne it again becomes competitive with NCB coal. The Central Electricity Generating Board (CEGB) is renegotiating its coal board contract and while remaining committed to using British coal, the amount used will drop if oil prices remain low and it again becomes economic to bring into use the large oil-fired power stations. The CEGB is reluctant to discuss its oil buying or oil-burning policies, because the price would rise if traders knew when it was about to move into the oil spot market for large purchases. Meanwhile, coal is still being added to the power station stockpiles to meet the eventuality of another stoppage in the mines. In the last quarter of last year the use of coal for power generation rose to a total of 30.5 million tonnes and the use of oil dropped by 85 per cent to the equivalent of two million tonnes of coal.



Miners from the Bold colliery at St Helens, Merseyside, marching back to work

# Honeymoon over for rebels

The refusal of the NUM executive last week to endorse a call for an overtime ban from Mr Arthur Scargill was bad news for the leaders of the Union of Democratic Mineworkers (Craig Seton writes). The last thing the emerging moderate union wanted was for the NUM president to be silenced. He has been its best recruiting sergeant. His conduct of the disastrous miners' strike made thousands of pitmen look for new leaders. Although the UDM now claims 40,000 members, chiefly in Nottinghamshire, the bitter memories of the strike are now fading. It is imperative for the new union to remain one jump ahead of the NUM. That is why the UDM so quickly concluded a 5.9 per cent pay deal with the coal board last year, a deal still denied to the NUM. The UDM also has to face the future without Mr Ian MacGregor, the coal board chairman, who retires in September. He bent over backwards to help its creation. But Mr David Prendergast, the UDM's financial secretary, remains confident. Since Nottinghamshire and south Derbyshire voted to form the UDM, only 2,000 of 27,000 Nottinghamshire members had rejoined the NUM. The union also has a majority among the 2,000 miners in Warwickshire.

## Dutch Citizens!

You are now able to participate for the first time from abroad in the elections for the representatives of the Second Chamber of the States-General on 21st May 1986. Naturally you do wish to make use of your right to vote. You can register as voter before 24th March, that is to say that your registration forms need to be received by the Rijksinspectie in the Hague by that day. You can apply for a voters registration form at the Netherlands Embassy 38 Hyde Park Gate London SW7 5DP tel. 01-584 5040

## Yorkshire

By Peter Davenport. A year after the end of the miners' strike, the Yorkshire colliery had fewer miners and fewer pits, but it is recording increased productivity: some men doubling their wage packets with bonuses. Yorkshire, the country's biggest colliery, is based on two area headquarters, North and South, instead of the four areas of management that existed before the dispute. More than 13,000 men have left the industry, most taking voluntary redundancy, and the workforce is now 38,000. Eight pits have closed and others have merged leaving 39 operating collieries. Coal board officials report a new mood of realism among the men who have remained in the industry. In the South Yorkshire area, the board says there has been a remarkable turnaround in the year since the men went back to work. Financial forecasts that the area would lose £100 million, including capital charges, by the end of March, have been revised down with a predicted loss of about £30 million. Before the strike there were 25 pits, but three have closed and others merged. Of the 19 collieries left only five are not making a profit. In North Yorkshire, where five pits have closed in the past year and at least two others may go before the end of this year, there are 20 operating collieries and output is approaching the three tonnes a man shift barrier.

## Midlands

By Craig Seton. Nottinghamshire coal kept the Trent Valley power stations operating during the strike and denied the National Union of Mineworkers the power cuts it desperately needed to achieve victory. The colliery's 30,000 men were almost solidly behind moderate leaders who emerged to take over from pro-Scargill officials during the strike and when it ended getting back to normal was easier than in most places. Even so, one year on, the strike still claims new casualties. Last week 200 NUM members at Bevercotes colliery went on strike over the dismissal of Mr Paul Whetton, a union activist, for distributing leaflets urging miners to leave the rival Union of Democratic Mineworkers. In the south Midlands area, Leicestershire and south Derbyshire, which worked throughout the strike, and Warwickshire, which was divided, miners will this year produce one million more tonnes of coal than they did last year. In the western area, which covers Lancashire, Staffordshire, Cumbria and North Wales, three pits have closed since the end of the strike. But the area is planning hopes on the £60 million Silverdale new mine in North Staffordshire.

## Wales

By Tim Jones. Coal will never be king again in South Wales but one year after the strike the future for the 13,500 men still in the industry appears to be secure in the 17 pits remaining. Before the strike, the 20,000 members of the National Union of Mineworkers knew their resilience was part of the mythology of the valleys. Once they had joined the strike, after voting initially by 18 to 10 against, their behaviour ran true to character. They became, without question, the most militant defenders of the dispute. Their picketing tactics were at times frightening and no one was surprised when the single worst incident of the conflict, the killing of a taxi driver, occurred in their area. A record one-year investment of £80 million in the colliery has demonstrated the board's confidence in economic extraction from the most geologically difficult area of Britain. The miners have responded with record productivity, 43 per cent higher than before the strike, when there were 28 pits. In the past 11 months, coalfield losses have been reduced, with breaks even expected next month. Before the strike the area lost more than £90 million a year. If government backing is forthcoming, a further £80 million may be invested in a new superpit at Margam to produce coking coal for steel mills at Port Talbot and Llanwern.

## Scotland

By Ronald Faxn. The Scottish area of the National Coal Board employs nearly 8,000 miners in nine collieries. Before the strike, 13,500 men worked at 10 pits and the coalfield returned an operating loss of £34 million a year. Now the board aims to break even by 1987-88. Scotland lost one colliery during the strike, Polkemmet in West Lothian, an fell victim to the most bitter moments of the dispute between unions and management and was flooded. The pit supplied 500,000 tonnes of coking coal to Ravenscraig steelworks in Lanarkshire. A question mark still hangs over the Frances colliery in Fife which could have a future linked to the neighbouring Sellafield colliery where £8 billion is being invested in two new faces. Other projects designed to increase output and productivity from the Scottish coalfield include: ● A new £3 million face of Salsburgh colliery in the Longannet complex; ● A £6 million link-up to ensure maximum exploitation of the Killoch and Barrow pits in Ayrshire; ● A £5 million investment at Monktonhall colliery, near Edinburgh, to work a new area of coal; ● Continuation of the £10 million electrification scheme at Bliston Glen colliery; ● Investment of £1 million at Comrie pit in Fife in a new "retreat" section although Comrie is judged to be a "short life" colliery by the NCB.

Vouchers could be kept in schools

# Workers unhappy with way unions represent them, poll claims

By David Hewson

Trade union members are increasingly unhappy with the way their unions represent them, a poll published yesterday claims.

The survey, produced by MORI for Industry Year as reports by the Association of Market Survey Organizations, shows that 48 per cent of workers, and 43 per cent of trade union members, believe their organizations are controlled by a few extremists and militants.

The percentage of shop-floor workers who thought their interests were being well looked after by their shop stewards had fallen from 70 per cent 10 years ago to 57 per cent today, and only 42 per cent believed their national executive cared about them.

The survey showed that members tend to belong to a trade union not for political power, but for job security.

Among all workers, 52 per cent thought that the unions still had too much power in Britain in spite of changes in the law, and 42 per cent of trade union members agreed.

But 58 per cent of workers believed that unions were essential to protect workers' interests.

There was widespread op-

## Trade union to run TV advert

A trade union will make British broadcasting history today when it starts advertising its services on television in seven 10-second "jingles" costing £10,000.

The advertisement by the Transport and General Workers' Union, Britain's largest union, will go out each night until Sunday at peak viewing time to Granada TV viewers in the north-west of England.

position to the principle of the closed shop. Only 17 per cent of workers thought everyone who works should have to belong to a union, and even among union members only 32 per cent believed that union membership should be compulsory.

But most workers did not believe that trade unions were the main cause of the country's economic difficulties.

And the poll showed that workers felt that their immediate boss was almost as likely to look after their interests as much as their shop steward.

A total of 57 per cent believed their interests were being well looked after by their

local union representative, 56 per cent by their immediate boss, 42 per cent by their union national executive, 34 per cent by top management, 19 per cent by their local MP, and 9 per cent by the Government.

There was widespread support for secret ballots of union members concerning a range of issues.

More than 80 per cent of union members, and three-quarters of general workers, supported ballots before strikes, 78 per cent of workers wanted them for the election of union officials, and 69 per cent on closed shop agreements.

The idea of accepting wage reductions to ensure continued employment was attractive to only 4 per cent of shop-floor workers in manufacturing and construction.

A total of 14 per cent rated their company as "one of the best", 20 per cent "above average", 52 per cent "average", 6 per cent "below average" and 5 per cent "one of the worst".

The survey was based upon 1,019 manual workers and managers in the manufacturing, mining, and construction industries and in the service sector, including government.



## Retirement at 70 proposed for GPs

By Nicholas Timmins, Social Services Correspondent

Proposals to make family doctors retire at the age of 70, to make it easier for patients to change doctors and to find out what services local doctors offer are to be put forward in the Government's Green Paper on the future of family practitioner services.

Ministers are to propose that GPs should move towards a performance-related contract, where those who undertake preventive work and achieve high rates of vaccination, immunization and screening, would receive more pay. There would also be incentives to encourage younger doctors to move to inner-city areas.

The Green Paper is likely, however, to pick up initiatives from the Royal College of General Practitioners which is keen to see a performance-related contract introduced to encourage GPs to provide better services. Ministers may press for GPs to be allowed, in effect, to advertise their services, to encourage competition.

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Mrs Gay Biddlecombe, whose St George's English Wines have been chosen to launch the Domesday celebrations this month, with her staff pruned the vines in the East Sussex vineyard, in specially bottled for the celebrations. Domesday English Wine, being tasted (right) by Mrs Biddlecombe, has been selected by The National Domesday Committee and the Public Record Office for all the official functions, including the reception to be attended by the Queen. (Photograph: Tim Bishop)



## Budget tax cut plea as sherry sales drop

By Derek Harris

Sales of fortified wines, especially sherry, fell 18 per cent last year, in spite of bigger Christmas sales to shops. At the same time, the sale of table wines slowed for the first time since 1982.

The findings emerge from the latest analyses by the Wine and Spirit Association, based on customs and excise returns. The association blames over-taxation for the decline and is calling for taxes to be reduced in the Budget.

The association has appealed to Spain and Portugal to add to the pressure to reduce the taxes in Britain now that these key exporters of sherry and port are EEC members.

Beer sales are also still in the doldrums, but lager accounts for 41 per cent of the beer market.

## Disruption threat in Bar pay deadlock

By Our Legal Affairs Correspondent

A deadlock between the Bar and the Attorney General over barristers' fees for prosecution work, threatens widespread disruption of the Crown prosecution service, due to start in parts of the country on April 1. Negotiations ceased abruptly three weeks ago at the same time as the Lord Chancellor announced he was increasing defence fees under legal aid by only 5 per cent.

The Bar is challenging the Lord Chancellor in the courts over that decision, but it has failed to make any progress with negotiations on prosecution fees.

When barristers decided to take legal proceedings against the Lord Chancellor, they also agreed they should be free to refuse prosecutions unless a reasonable fee was agreed.

This move, which comes close to industrial action, will directly affect the new service, unless Bar leaders and the Attorney General can agree on fees within four weeks.

Mr Robert Alexander, QC, chairman of the Bar, said: "We are pressing the Attorney General for negotiations and there is great concern that he has not so far responded, bearing in mind he agreed these negotiations should take place within a timetable to be completed by the end of January."

Three weeks ago, the Attorney General wrote to Mr Alexander, saying that the new prosecution service would need to engage private practitioners in the magistrates' courts to supplement its own lawyers.

But there has been no further move on crown court work, where the Bar is putting forward a system of "standard fees", which would remove the need for each brief to be assessed.

## Move to save wild flowers

More than 300 of Britain's wild flowers are threatened with extinction (Our Horticulture Correspondent writes).

To focus attention on this and to campaign for better management of wild-flower habitats such as roadside verges, the Royal Society of Nature Conservation's British wild life appeal is organizing a wild flower week on May 17-25.

The week will begin with a sponsored celebrities' wild flower walk, started by Mr David Bellamy, the botanist.

This will leave the Stoke Garden Festival on May 17 and, passing through many wild flower reserves, will arrive during the opening of the Chelsea Flower Show on May 20.

Other events around the

country will include exhibitions.

A wild life garden is being created at the Stoke Garden Festival (May 14 to October 26) and there will be a display called Wild Flowers Are Wonderful at the Chelsea show.

The RSN, in association with the Ford Motor Company, is producing a booklet, *Wild Flowers on the Verge*.

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## Office use of VDUs 'soon 50%

More than half Britain's workforce will regularly be using visual display units within four years, according to the TUC today.

It points out that 1.25 million VDUs are in use in Britain and that sales of word processors, personal computers and larger systems continue at a rapid rate.

The TUC says that as a result of research confirming that some health problems are frequently encountered among VDU workers, it publishes today a handbook that sets out guidelines for the safe use of the equipment.

The aim of the guidelines is to assist safety representatives and other union officials in their negotiations with employers on the introduction and use of VDUs.

The TUC is particularly keen to avoid intensive VDU work and to limit the total time spent on such work.

British industry is so dependent on computers that computer failure could ruin companies, an international insurance specialist expert says.

According to Stewart Wrightson, the international insurance brokers, many companies depend on computers for the day-to-day running of their business to such an extent that a computer system interruption of more than a few hours could bring a company close to collapse.

## Proposals for law reform this week

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

Far-reaching changes in the criminal justice system to make it more effective in bringing criminals to book will be proposed by the Government in a White Paper on Thursday.

The main ingredients of the mixed package of reforms are:

- Changes in the extradition laws to stop the United Kingdom being used as a haven by international criminals.
- The abolition of trial by jury for certain minor offences to ease crown court congestion.
- Options for curbing a defendant's right to challenge jurors without reason.
- Options for tackling over-lenient sentences by judges.

The reforms to the extradition laws will include a relaxation of the present legal rule which makes it difficult for foreign courts to get alleged offenders out of Britain.

In return, it is hoped that other countries will take steps to return British fugitives.

The White Paper will also outline changes in the present system of trial by jury. It wants to abolish the right to jury trial in the case of some minor offences, such as common assault and driving while disqualified.

Proposals to curb the controversial peremptory challenge, or right to challenge jurors, will also be put forward in the form of options.

These options are expected

to range from complete abolition of the peremptory challenge, to reducing the present right of three challenges to one.

The White Paper will suggest that complete abolition is matched by an expansion in the right to challenge for cause, or giving a reason.

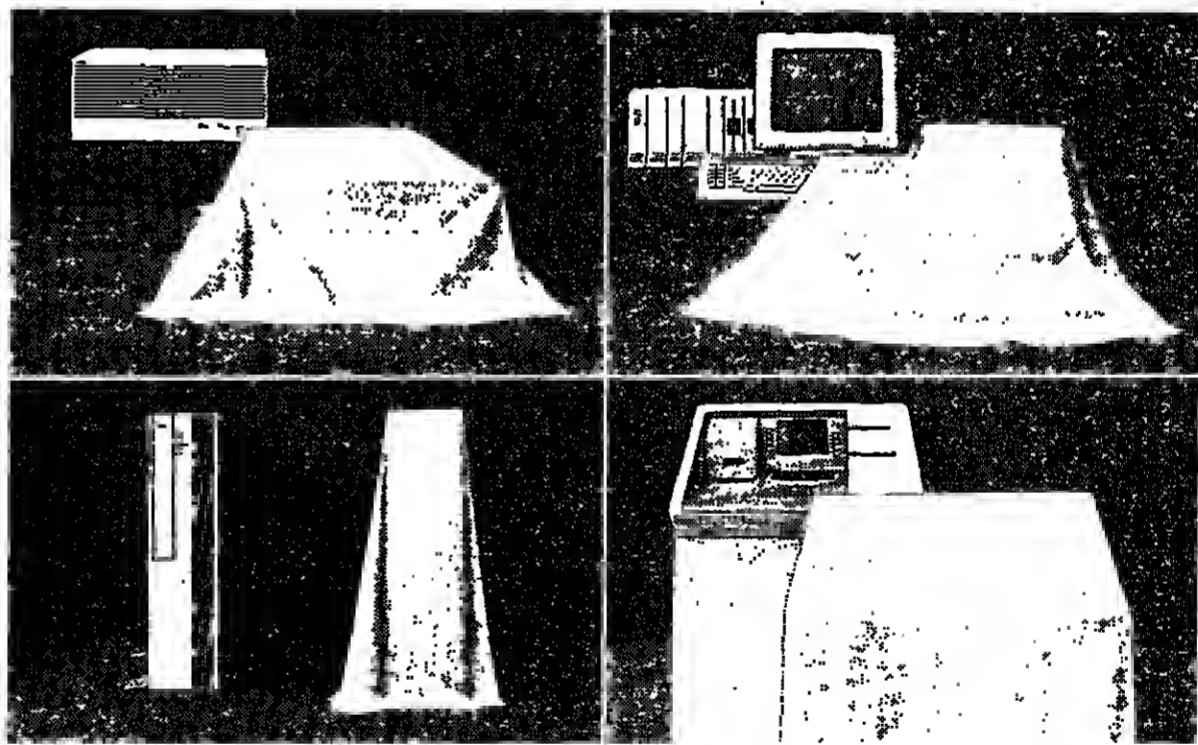
Finally the White Paper is expected to put forward three options for tackling over-lenient sentences in the face of concern by some backbenchers.

Last year the Government was forced to withdraw a proposal that the Court of Appeal should be able to review allegedly over-lenient sentences referred to it by the prosecution, and to make a statement of opinion, because of parliamentary opposition.

The same proposal will be out of three options canvassed in the White Paper. A second option will be the same proposal but with "teeth". The Court of Appeal would be able to increase the sentence if it thought it was too lenient and not be confined just to a statement of opinion.

Third, the White Paper will suggest that sentencing by judges be made more consistent. This would be done by codifying the practice directions of the Lord Chief Justice into a "guide book" for judges, perhaps with statutory backing.

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## Plea to save merlins

Merlin falcons are the only bird of prey whose numbers are falling in the United Kingdom, according to the latest issue of the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds' magazine, *Birds*.

The society is calling for action to ensure that the merlin's upland habitat is not destroyed by farming and forestry. It wants the Government to support the Agriculture Bill which would allow large areas of land to be designated environmentally sensitive areas.

The Nature Conservancy Council and the Countryside Commission have drawn up a list of 18 such areas, including the Cambrian mountains and Orkney. The merlin population in Britain is about 600



The merlin falcon, whose numbers are falling.

pairs; 350 pairs in Scotland, 200 in northern England and 50 in Wales.

## Britons under 24 keen to travel in space

Six out of 10 young Britons would travel in space if they had the chance and the idea is twice as popular with men, according to a holiday survey out today.

What Britons do and spend on holiday are contained in the survey conducted by Gallup for American Express.

It shows that enthusiasm for space travel is affected by age: 63 per cent of those aged 16 to 24 would go, compared with 16 per cent of the 65-plus group.

More than 16-million British adults are likely to take a foreign holiday this year, 2.6 million more than last year.

## Weather hits cathedral charges

Ely Cathedral took £313 when it began imposing admission charges at the weekend.

But the authorities at the cathedral, one of the finest in Europe and dating back 1,300 years, said they were not disappointed.

Canon Dennis Green, vicar and treasurer, said yesterday: "It was a slow start because of the weather. It was sleeting."

More than 200 sightseers, including Australians, Germans and French, each paid £1.50 to go into the building which dominates the Cam-

bridgeshire Fen landscape. Children, students and pensioners were charged £1.

Until now the 200,000 visitors a year have given an average of 32p each.

Canon Green said: "The response of everyone was very positive. They quite understood our situation. We have to raise an extra £100,000 a year to break even."

"It is a case of the cathedral either remaining a living building or becoming a future Stonehenge."

"No one expressed alarm that they had to pay. I was amazed. I expected to have to

explain our situation in great detail.

"We have notice boards explaining that we don't receive state aid."

More than 1,000 free passes have been issued to local people and the Cathedral Friends, its supporters' club.

"No charges are made at the cathedral on Sundays. A side chapel for prayers is available free of charge throughout the week," Canon Green said.

More than £5 million has to be found for the upkeep and restoration of the cathedral during the next 10 years. An international fund-raising campaign is to be launched.

# Government will not contribute to safety at football grounds

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

A government working party, set up after the Bradford City fire disaster to organize the financing of football ground improvements, has been quietly wound up without the Government having to contribute to the multi-million-pound cost.

The decision, so far unannounced, marks a victory for the Government, and particularly the Prime Minister, over the football authorities.

After the Valley Parade disaster last May there were calls from the Football Association and the Football League, backed by opposition parties, for government help for financing the upgrading of standards which was ordered for all Football League grounds.

But Mrs Thatcher argued strongly at several Downing Street meetings that the game itself had the capacity to find more money.

The working party, chaired by Mr Richard Tracey, Minister for Sport, and involving several government departments and the football authorities, is considered by the Government to have a role no longer.

The authorities pressed until the last the need for government help but, according to a working party source, were in the end outmanoeuvred by the Government.

According to the source, it was a suggestion from Mr Tracey that the FA should consider organizing sponsorship for the FA Cup competition, a suggestion it regards with horror, before asking for money from the Government that finally led it to admit defeat.

A decision before Christmas to allow the clubs five years to complete the improvements, while keeping unsafe parts of their grounds closed, has enabled the Government to say that the clubs should complete the programme with considerable help from the Football Grounds Improvement Trust.

Each year it gives £4 million from the spot-the-ball competitions for safety work.

Its allied organization, the Football Trust, will soon announce a £300,000 scheme to help the big non-League clubs.

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# Jobless build 'own' hall

Community enterprise has a long tradition in Glasgow. The pioneering work in the 1970s by Mr Jim Johnson and his colleagues to the architectural co-operative, Assist, to re-habitat tenement blocks with the help of tenants has been widely copied (Charles Knevitt writes).

For the past four years Mr Andy Jack, an Assist architect, has been working with

Spittal Tenants Community Association in the Glasgow suburb of Rutherglen. Their community hall, serving an estate of 850 houses, opens this summer with the help of a £50,000 grant from Glasgow District Council and labour provided through the Manpower Services Commission.

The project is one of the 33 entries short-listed in The Times/RIBA Community En-

terprise Scheme. It was visited by the assessors at the weekend.

Mrs Margaret Deans, secretary of the association, said that positive discrimination had been used in selecting MSC labour from the surrounding area.

Mr Kenny Waters, the site manager, said that he has had considerable success in finding permanent jobs for them.

# Spray attack on police

Thirty-six policemen suffered irritation to the eyes, nose and throat when they were attacked by football supporters armed with canisters at Southampton.

Hampshire Police said that it was not known what the policemen were sprayed with. None was seriously hurt.

The incident happened when 750 Manchester United supporters broke down two gates as they surged out of Southampton's stadium. The Dell, shortly before the end of Saturday's First Division match.

# Girl murdered after disco

The parents of a girl aged 16 who was found strangled and sexually assaulted early yesterday morning in Colwyn Bay, North Wales, were travelling from their home in Liverpool last night to identify their daughter's body.

The girl, who had been living in the resort, was on her way home from a discotheque when she was attacked.

# Militant fails

Mr Ben Lucas, aged 23, a Liverpool University student who supports the soft left, was elected leader of the Labour Students Organizations on Saturday, defeating a Militant

# Australia independent at last

From Stephen Taylor, Canberra



A smiling Queen accepts bouquets from Australian children during a walkabout on her arrival in Canberra.

The Queen yesterday left traditional Maori insults and political brouhaha in New Zealand and arrived in Canberra for a 12-day visit which for all Australia's reputation for belligerent egalitarianism, is unlikely to be touched by the same kind of controversy.

Her first official duty was to grant Australians the full independence from Britain which many thought they had decades ago.

In a simple ceremony at Government House here, attended by Mr Bob Hawke, the Prime Minister, and his Cabinet, the Queen signed a proclamation activating from today the Australia Acts of 1986, recently passed by the British and Federal Parliaments.

The Acts remove the residual — and by general agreement outdated — legislative, executive and judicial powers which could be imposed from Britain.

The unbanding by Australia of such control has been a process which started with the effective granting of self-government in 1901 — when colonies like Victoria and New South Wales federated as a nation — and continued through the 1930s but which is only now complete.

The final phase, which started more than a decade ago, was delayed as much by a certain weariness at various state parliaments at the prospect of losing further authority to Canberra as by reluctance in Westminster to approve it.

The most significant change in practical terms is abolition of the right of appeal to the Privy Council. The view has been widely held in legal circles for years here that it was intolerable for a foreign body to have overriding legal

jurisdiction in Australia, and henceforth the High Court is the final judicial authority.

The Act also scraps powers which British governments have in theory retained but in effect not exercised for years, as a link between state governments in Australia and the Crown.

The New Zealand tour was incident-filled to the end. On Saturday three women in their early twenties exposed their buttocks to the Queen as she was being driven to a garden party in Christchurch.

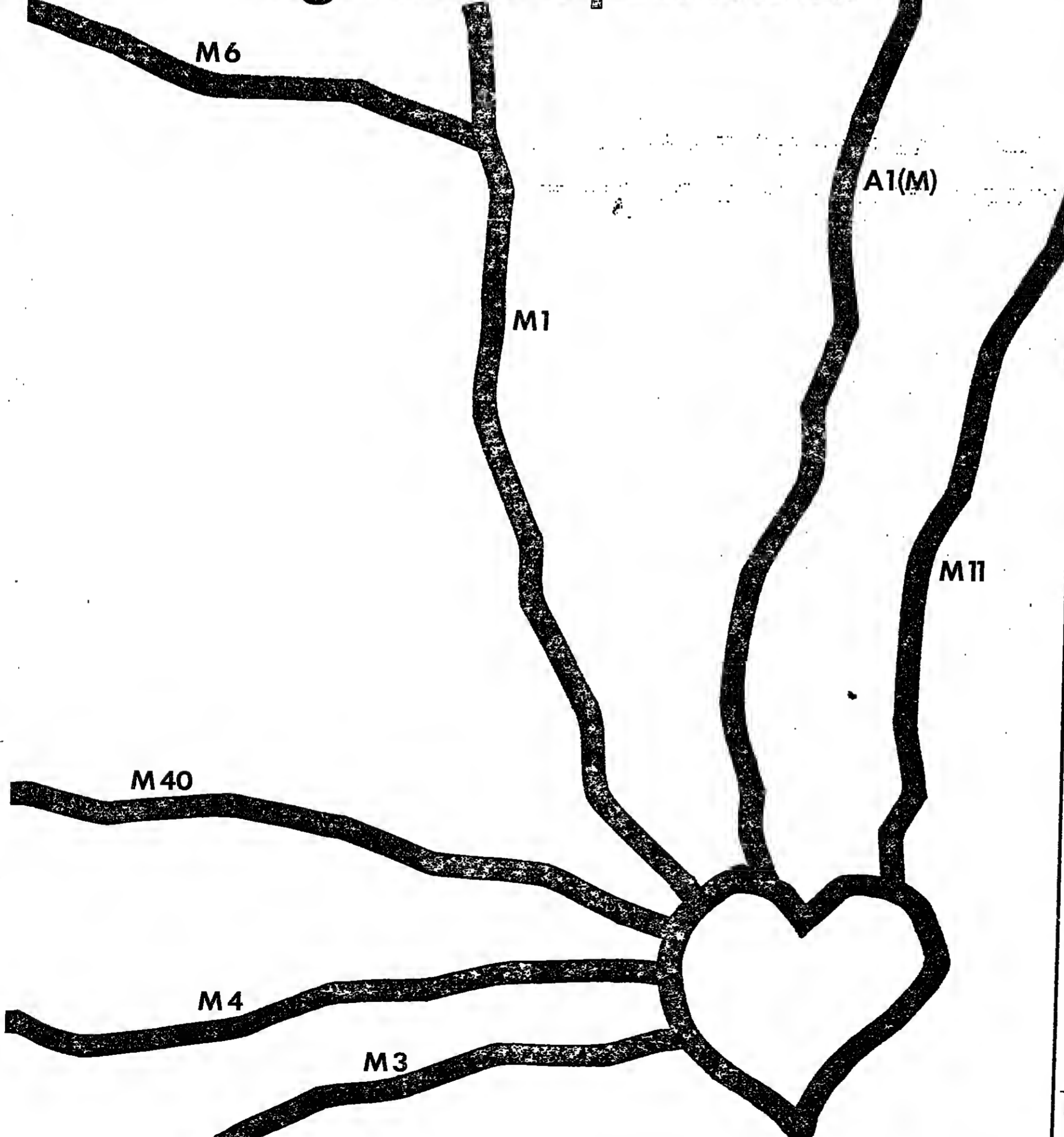
The *Whakapohane*, as this traditional Maori gesture is known, was clearly seen by the Queen, and was the second time on the tour that she and the Duke of Edinburgh had been confronted by protesters in this way. She was also hit by an egg thrown by a young woman and encountered a number of demonstrations.

For all the attention these protests have attracted, it would be a mistake to imagine that New Zealand — arguably the most ardently royalist of all Commonwealth countries — has undergone some dramatic metamorphosis. The demonstrators were invariably in small groups and generally representative of fringe political groups.

Mr David Lange, the Prime Minister, clearly testy at the coverage the incidents have attracted in the British media, said to British journalists on Saturday: "She is the Queen of New Zealand. I don't remember complaining when a man got into her bedroom at Buckingham Palace. I wish you people would look after her as well as we do in New Zealand."

Special Report, pages 21-24

# Blocked arteries give businessmen high blood pressure.



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# Dingo baby mother breaks down on TV

Sydney (Reuter) — The convicted baby-killer, Mrs Lindy Chamberlain, repeatedly broke down yesterday as she insisted in her first television interview since her release from jail that her nine-week-old daughter was snatched by a dingo.



Mrs Lindy Chamberlain: vows to clear name.

Mrs Chamberlain, aged 38, whose bizarre case has gripped Australia, was freed on February 9 after serving three years of a life sentence for killing her baby, Azaria, in 1980.

She said she would fight to clear her name and those of her family and witnesses who said Azaria was taken by a dingo from a camp-site at remote Ayers Rock.

After new evidence was found relating to her baby's death, Mrs Chamberlain was freed, but the authorities said that her conviction would stand pending the outcome of a new inquiry.

Mrs Chamberlain, who showed an apparent detachment during her marathon murder trial, spoke emotionally about what her conviction had done to her family.

"To see my children's reactions, to watch my father go grey, nothing will pay for that, not ever, and that makes me extremely angry," she said.

Mrs Chamberlain, who has three other children, said there was no way she could have killed her daughter, whose body was never found.

Mrs Lindy Chamberlain: vows to clear name.

Asked why she did not pretend she killed her daughter in a state of post-natal depression, she said: "Why should I pretend that I had done something I didn't do?"

The evidence which triggered her release was the discovery of a tattered jacket she identified as the one Azaria wore on the night she went missing.

Her supporters say that the jacket, still under forensic study, proved that Azaria was wearing it on the night she disappeared, a fact hotly contested by the prosecution during Mrs Chamberlain's trial.

The interview was shown on a channel controlled by the media tycoon Mr Kerry Packard, whose Consolidated Press Group is reported by local newspapers to have paid £125,000 for exclusive interviews with the Chamberlains.

# Seven die in Tamil ambush

Colombo (AFP, Reuter) — Tamil militants in Sri Lanka killed five soldiers and two Sinhalese farmers in an attack yesterday in the Vavuniya district, about 160 miles north of here.

The soldiers were guarding the farmers as they moved their harvest from a paddy field when the Tamils blew up their vehicles with a remote control landmine. Seven other farmers were seriously injured.

A ban on fishing in Sri Lanka's northern territorial waters went into effect yesterday after the Government accused Tamil separatists of ferrying arms and trained terrorists from southern India.

Informant sources here said the Government was planning to spend 300 million rupees (£8 million) on buying new naval patrol vessels for use in the Palk Strait separating India and Sri Lanka.

Meanwhile, Sri Lanka launched a diplomatic campaign to defend itself against Indian accusations of genocide. The acting Foreign Minister, Mr Tyrone Fernando, announced that he would meet envoys from 10 countries today to brief them on Sri Lanka's view of the dispute.

# London to share chess fight

Lucerne (Reuter) — A rematch between the new world chess champion, Gary Kasparov, and the challenger and former world champion, his fellow Russian Anatoly Karpov, will be held in London and Leningrad from July 28, the International Chess Federation announced here.

The first 12 games will be played in Britain and the remaining 12 in the Soviet Union, the statement said.

The decision to hold the competition in two centres was made despite the ruling body's wish for the whole match to be in London, it added.

The federation's president, Mr Florencio Campomanes, dismissed reports that his organization had been engaged in a power struggle with the Soviet Chess Federation. A London financing problem had been resolved, decision over prize money would be taken in the near future, Mr Campomanes said.

London originally offered 1.8 million Swiss francs (£666,000) and Leningrad one million.

Because of the long time taken to decide on the venue there was barely enough time to complete preparations for the tournament.

# China's first bankrupt

Peking (Reuter) — A factory in the north-eastern city of Shenyang will become the first firm to go bankrupt in China since 1949, the Peking Review magazine said yesterday.

It said the unnamed factory, one of three in Shenyang that were warned last August to put their houses in order, had failed to do so and would have to auction its assets to pay off creditors. Its employees would

be listed as "waiting for work", the official term for unemployment. About 3.6 million are so listed.

The magazine said Shenyang was the first city in China to take such a "daring" measure, with the country's first bankruptcy law due to be approved this year. Bankruptcy is a sensitive topic in China, where the government is committed to full employment.

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# After the Philippines upheaval Joyful millions cheer conquering Corazon

From Michael Hamlyn, Manila

In a highly theatrical gesture, the new President of the Philippines, Mrs Corazon Aquino, yesterday revoked her predecessor's suspension of habeas corpus and signed the presidential proclamation with a flourish before a vast mass meeting in the centre of the capital, Manila.

The meeting, which was partly a religious service, partly a show business festival, and partly a political rally, took place on a swelteringly sultry afternoon, and had Cardinal Jaime Sin, while celebrating Mass, following "Coron" giving the presidential "L" sign, and speaking of "the past days of grace" when people defied tanks and guns "when their only weapons were rosaries and words and prayers and flowers and faith".

Even the President caught the biblical atmosphere, referring to the assassination of her husband, Senator Benigno ("Ninoy") Aquino, as the country's Good Friday, and the installation of her Government as its Easter Sunday.

"I am sure that Ninoy is smiling at us now," she told the ecstatic crowd. "We have proved him correct that the Filipino is worth dying for."

Mrs Aquino urged her audience, which a commentator estimated at six million strong

rebel New People's Army (NPA). Mr Bernabe Bascayano.

The failure to release all the prisoners — though an obviously sound move in the event — is not the only way that the new Government is not quite living up to the immediately high expectations of its followers.

The new Minister for Local Government, Mr Aquilino Pimentel, is causing a considerable furore by giving orders to all incumbent mayors to resign their offices and face replacement by mayors of a more suitable political coloring.

In a number of municipalities the news is being greeted by further spontaneous demonstrations of "people power", with objectors protesting that they want to keep the mayors they love.

The Justice Minister is having a similar problem with some of the judges of the High and Supreme Courts, who are anxious not to resign in case they may not be reappointed.

Some dissident figures are trying to challenge the Government's legal right to ask for all these resignations.

Other officials, like the Justice Minister himself, have been saying that Mrs Aquino's Government is a revolutionary



Still in the shadow of the military, a Filipino family picnics before President Aquino's rally.

# Marcos claims he stepped down to avert bloodshed

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

Mr Ferdinand Marcos the ousted Philippines President, looking typically impassive but bitter than when he first stepped shakily off an American military plane in Hawaii on Wednesday, said at the weekend that he had stepped down rather than use his "superior military power".

Although he had several opportunities to use that power, "the employment of such an overwhelming force, no matter how legitimate, would have resulted in the bloody carnage of innocent civilians." He added: "I have been called brave in my time, but brave as I have been against foreign invaders, I have no heart to shed Filipino blood."

It was his first public statement since being taken on a stretcher into a US C141 Starfighter cargo plane at Clark air base outside Manila a week ago and flown into exile. He refused to answer questions, reportedly on the advice of friends and those who wanted to prevent possible embarrassment to the US.

Typewritten copies of his statement were issued on paper headed: "Office of the President of the Philippines, Manila". He read it seated on the wind-swept stage of an open-air dance floor at the officers club overlooking Pearl Harbour.

His wife Imelda sat next to him, smiling occasionally. Mr Marcos, aged 68, said he had recovered from "a touch of flu". He said that after leaving Malacanang Palace he had wanted to go to Laoag City in his home province of Ilocos Norte, but had been told by "President Reagan's direct representative" to leave for Hawaii instead.

He said he was looking for accommodation to rent or lease in Hawaii.

New revelations are emerging about the trove of money, jewellery and documents that were among personal possessions on the two American planes that took Mr Marcos and his entourage into exile.

US Government sources in Honolulu were quoted yesterday as saying that real estate deeds, stocks and bonds and other documents detailing investments worth millions of dollars, were on board. The money and documents, together with jewellery and other valuables, were said to be under guard while US officials decided what to do with them.

One report said that Mr Marcos left behind a 1982 contract to buy a 71-storey office building on Wall Street, New York, for \$70 million. However, his name is not in the contract.

# Moscow offer to West on SS22s

Moscow (Reuters) — The Soviet Union has promised to withdraw new short-range nuclear missiles from Czechoslovakia and East Germany if the United States agrees to scrap its European-based rockets under an East-West arms control deal.

In a speech to the Communist Party congress made public yesterday, the Foreign Minister, Mr Eduard Shevardnadze, inserted a sentence, apparently aimed at soothing concern about the missiles in Western Europe.

"If American medium-range rockets in Western Europe are completely liquidated

there will be no further necessity for the stationing of Soviet operative tactical weapons in those places where they have been deployed," he said.

It was Moscow's first indication of what would happen to the missiles if it reached agreement with Washington on abolishing medium-range weapons.

The Soviet Union began deploying SS22 missiles in the two allied communist states in 1984 in response to the arrival of US cruise and Pershing missiles in the West.

Western European governments, especially the West Germans, have voiced concern that the new rockets might be overlooked in an arms control package.

The SS22s based in East Germany and Czechoslovakia can reach targets in West Germany, Britain and France.

# Karmal blames US for Afghan stalemate

Moscow (Reuters) — President Babrak Karmal of Afghanistan has said that US pressure on Pakistan is blocking a settlement of his country's guerrilla war, and that an absolute majority of Afghans now supported his Government.

He also said that Soviet troops would leave Afghanistan immediately if the US and other countries halted their support for Muslim guerrillas there.

"If Pakistan was not under the pressure of the United States and agreed to talk directly with our country, a political settlement could soon be found."

Pakistan has refused to negotiate with the Soviet-backed Kabul Government. The two states are talking indirectly through United Nations officials.

President Karmal, in Moscow for the 77th Soviet Com-



President Babrak Karmal: settlement could be found.

# González in fighting mood for Nato poll

From Richard Wigg, Jaén, Andalusia

Señor Felipe González, the Spanish Prime Minister, came to his native Andalusia yesterday to plunge personally into his Government's campaign for a "Yes" verdict in the Nato referendum 10 days from now.

He adopted his old fierce combative style, reminiscent of the 1982 general election campaign, in which he won power, telling an enthusiastic audience: "I am proud as a politician to lead swimming against the current, not for the benefit of my party or myself, but in the interest of Spain."

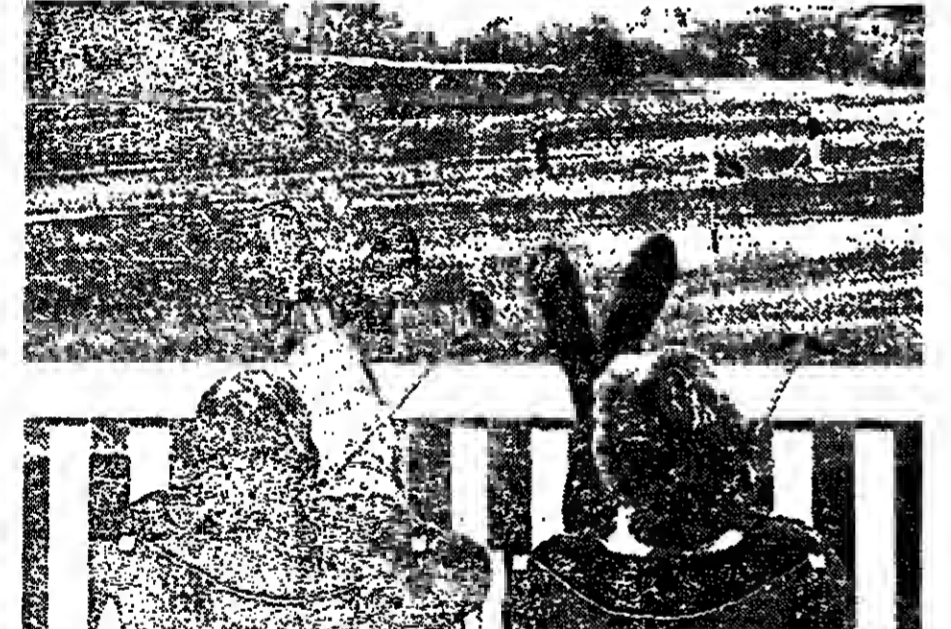
He added: "I am confident it will be 'Yes' because I trust in the commonsense of the people who believe we are building peace with the rest of the democratic countries of Europe and who know we have broken down the barriers of two centuries of isolation. We can be proud of a party which has evolved in order to serve the country."

The audience repeatedly chanted "Felipe, the people are with you."

This initial meeting on one of the Prime Minister's rare appearances outside the capital since taking office was chosen with great care Jaén has with 9 000 card-carrying

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# Mubarak downgrades four commanders of police mutineers

As Egyptian government troops yesterday tramped through miles of sand dunes west of the Pyramids in search of the few mutinous security policemen who managed to escape from their besieged barracks on Friday, President Mubarak hastily replaced the officers who commanded — but did not control — the thousands of security men who rioted throughout Cairo last week.

Four senior officials have been transferred to humble positions in the government bureaucracy, the nature of which gives some indication of the ignominy into which Mr Mubarak has thrown their careers.

Newspapers here have given considerable publicity to the dismissals, so that Egyptians should realize how seriously the President regards the rebellion within his own security forces.

Major-General Muhammad Tantani fell from grace rather spectacularly. From being head of the Egyptian State Security Services, he has been made Assistant Minister for the "Central Delta Area". Major-General Hussein Kamel Zaki, who was First Assistant Minister for the Security Services, will now

From Robert Fisk, Cairo

exercise his talents as First Assistant Minister for "Economic Security" (sic), while Major-General Lutfi Abdull-Fattah Ibrahim, the director for the Central Security Forces, is to become director of "the Department of Data and Documentation" — in other words, state archives.

Major-General Mukhtar Maged, who was Assistant Minister for the Security Forces, has now been put in charge of "financial and administrative affairs".

Mr Mubarak has at least tried to deal with the immediate causes of the rioting by instructing his new Interior Minister, Major-General Zaki Badri, to look after the "social interests" of the black-uniformed conscripts who are supposed to control internal security in the capital.

Indeed, details of their conditions which are now emerging in Cairo say a good deal about the contempt in which the authorities held them over the past decade.

It transpires, for example, that the average wage of a Cairo security policeman was £4 a month — enough money to buy two soft drinks in the hotels which they burnt down in their riot last week.

Many were enraged not so

much by false rumours that their three-year term of conscription was to be raised by 12 months as by an instruction that they were now to lose two days' pay a month "for austerity reasons".

Furthermore, the police — many of whom come from villages hundreds of miles from Cairo — were told that their free train fares home every six weeks were henceforth to be given to them only once every three months.

The policemen, with their outdated Soviet bayonet-topped breech-loading rifles, who stood guard outside foreign embassies in the capital, were expected to buy or cage bread while on duty, sometimes accepting food as gifts from passers-by. Yesterday many of them were back on duty in the city — but without their rifles.

There is little doubt in Egypt, however, that improvements in their conditions will be merely cosmetic if the Government does not swiftly come to grips with the more fundamental problem of poverty among the overcrowded, Dickensian slums of the city.

Yet with falling oil and tourist revenues, it is difficult to see how the President can even begin to cope.



Iraqi soldiers in action outside Fao, the south-eastern Iraqi port which has been occupied for two weeks by Iranian troops.

# Ship chief officer dies in Gulf raid

Bahrain (Reuter) — Five warplanes, apparently from Iran, bombed a Turkish tanker in the Gulf yesterday, killing the ship's chief officer and injuring a crew member, shipping officials said.

The attack on the Atlas 1, bound for the main Saudi Arabian oil terminal of Ras Tannurah, appeared to be a retaliation from Iran for four strikes in the past week by Iraq on tankers using Iranian ports.

In Istanbul, the general manager of a state-owned shipping company said that the ship was hit by bombs from five still unidentified military aircraft 150 miles off Ras Tannurah.

Shipping sources in the Gulf said that the attack appeared to have been carried out by Iranian aircraft, judging from the ship's position 85 miles east of Qatar and the use of bombs.

NICOSIA: Iranian troops have shelled the military garrison at Suleymaniyah in north-east Iraq, Iran's official Islamic Republic News Agency said yesterday (AP reports).

It was thought to be the first time that the environs of the city, one of the twin capitals of Iraq's Kurdistan region, have come under artillery fire since the outbreak of the war 5½ years ago. Dozens of Iraqi soldiers were reported killed or wounded.

# Ershad offers to hold elections at end of April

From Ahmed Fazi Dhaka

President Ershad of Bangladesh announced here yesterday that he would hold elections for a new Parliament in the last week of April, in an attempt to return the country to democracy after four years of military rule.

General Ershad asked the main opposition parties to

withdraw their boycott threat, and promised to take steps to ensure fair elections.

But he emphasized that he would not end martial law before the poll, as demanded by the two main opposition alliances.

At least three previous attempts to hold elections were abandoned after opposition boycott threats.

There were no immediate reactions from the opposition, but both Mrs Sheikh Hasina Wazed, chief of the 15-party alliance, and Mrs Khaleida Zia, leader of the seven-party alliance, said in speeches on Saturday that they could not take part in polls under military rule.

The two alliances have called a general strike for March 24, and have threatened to follow it up with a civil disobedience movement if martial law continues.

tempt to bring the opposition to the polls, said that he would wind up the military courts and abolish the martial law administrators' offices.

General Ershad, in an at-

# 'Ivan the Terrible' trial Ukrainian denies he was a Nazi

From Ian Murray, Jerusalem

The man the Israelis call "Ivan the Terrible" made his first appearance before a court here yesterday and immediately denied that he had ever been to the Nazi death camp of Treblinka, let alone, in the words of the charge sheet, "participated in the murder of hundreds of thousands of civilians — men, women and children".

In the canteen of the Russian Compound police barracks, where the British once interrogated Jewish terrorists, a makeshift courtroom had been set up so that Deputy Commander Alex Ish-Shalom could apply for a 15-day remand in custody for "Mr Ivan John Demjanjuk, aged 66, lately of Cleveland, USA, at present under arrest in Israel."

Wearing the brown suit and open-neck shirt in which he arrived in Israel on Friday, Mr Demjanjuk was brought handcuffed in the special armoured car which will be used to take him to hearings from his high-security cell at Ramla, 30 miles from Jerusalem.

Tall and thick-set, he has been described by prison service doctors as "very strong". While Mr Denis Gouldmann, head of the State Attorney's international section, read out in Hebrew the charges, punishable by death, Mr Demjanjuk sat impassively, scratching his face and listening to a whispered Ukrainian translation.

Mr Aharon Simcha, president of the magistrates' court,

pointed out that the death sentence was possible under Sections 1 and 2 of the Nazi and Nazi Collaborators (Punishment) Law, but that it was not obligatory.

Mr Demjanjuk, blinking behind his thick, horn-rimmed spectacles in the harsh light of the television camera spotlights, was asked if he had anything to say.

Obviously frustrated at having the proceedings filtered through his interpreter, he asked if he could speak in English and was allowed to do so. Although he has lived in the United States since 1952, his English is heavily accented and very ungrammatical.

"Why I am here? I don't believe," he said. "I was never in the place you call Treblinka. I myself was in a prison camp of war."

He told the court he had never served the Nazis. He had been a prisoner and had been taken to Graz in Austria and asked to serve in a Ukrainian division by the Germans. "I am completely the wrong person you talk about," he said.

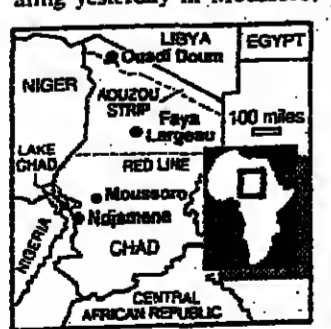
But the court, having briefly studied three of the thick files of evidence collected against him over the past 10 years, granted the remand in custody and he was hurried back to his armoured car.

In prison he has been refused permission to telephone his family in the United States and told that he must communicate with them by mail.

# France deploys radar north of Ndjamena

Paris (Reuter) — France has deployed a radar system guarded by its troops, in northern Chad for the first time since the latest fighting broke out.

The Defence Ministry said radar equipment began operating yesterday in Moussoro.



about 120 miles north-west of Ndjamena.

The radar was being used to provide better protection for Ndjamena airport in the event of air attacks.

The vulnerability of the airport was highlighted on February 17 when it was attacked by a lone Soviet-built Tupolev 22 bomber.

France said the attack left a crater in the runway and the airport was closed to civilian traffic for two days.

The ministry would not say how many troops were being deployed to protect the radar, but sources numbered them at about 100. France sent troops and aircraft to Chad after a rebel offensive three weeks ago.

# Uganda puts ex-prisoner in its Cabinet

Kampala (AP) — A long-time opponent of former President Milton Obote who has spent eight of the past 20 years as a political prisoner has joined the new Cabinet.

The appointment of Mr Balaki Kurya as Minister of State in the President's office was announced on Uganda radio together with other Cabinet appointments. There are now 20 ministers in the Cabinet of President Museveni.

Five deputy ministers were also named, including the first woman given a ministerial post by President Museveni. Gertrude Njuba will be Deputy Minister of Rehabilitation, Mr Sebenna Kizito, is Minister for Regional Cooperation, Mr E. Kakonge, Local Government, and Mr John Niumba, Education.

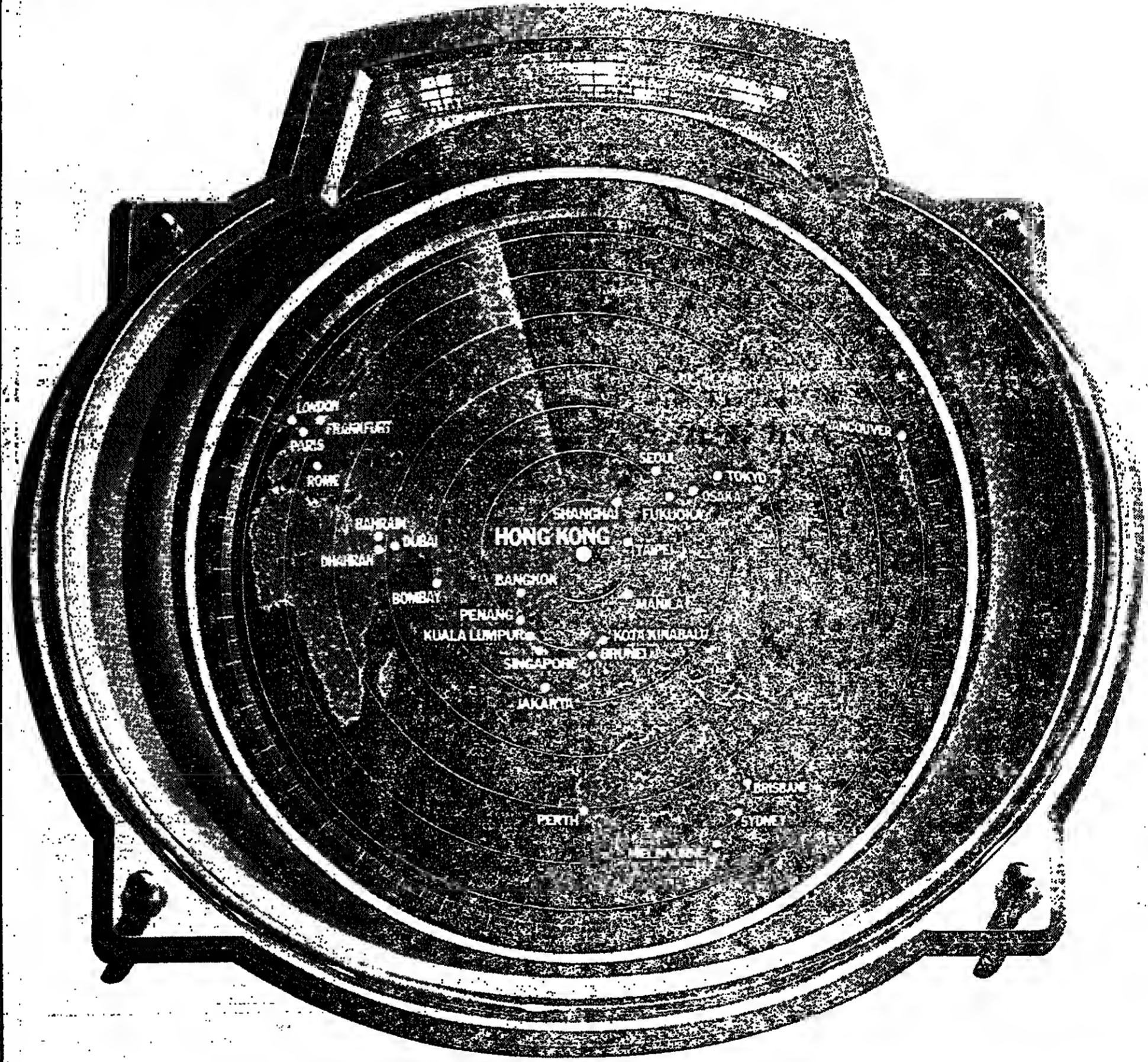
# Income tax scrapped in Grenada

St George's, Grenada (Reuter) — Mr Herbert Blaize, the Grenada Prime Minister, announced that personal income tax would be abolished in his new budget, which he said would convert Grenada into an island of opportunities.

Mr Blaize has presented to Parliament a budget of 236.4 million East Caribbean dollars (about £58.3 million), which scrapped 16 other forms of taxation, including hotel occupancy tax and consumption and excise duties.

He also removed a levy imposed by the former Marxist government on salaries to help finance construction of the Point Saline airport.

Mr Blaize replaced the abolished taxes with a value added tax, a land value tax, a company tax and a petrol tax.



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THE ARTS

Television Without heart

Anita Brookner's Hotel du Lac won the Booker Prize in 1985 and, completing its triumphant progress, has now made it to the small screen in BBC2's faithful but uninspiring adaptation.

In his new film, Clockwise, which appears in London next week, John Cleese (right) has risen above the confines of absurdity: interview by Paul Nathanson

Struggling to escape from a familiarly Fawltly image

"Ask me anything you like - the more insulting, the more interesting it'll probably be". John Cleese says gamely, stretching out his huge frame and resting his foot on a chair.



laxed when we met early one morning at the Groucho Club in Soho. Friends like Michael Palin confirm that he is altogether much more relaxed and settled nowadays than in the Python years during the Sixties and Seventies.

FOR S PEN The more

In terms of the first criterion, this production cannot be faulted. The location is just as one imagines it from the book: a mansion in the role of Edith Hope is just the right balance of primness and discreet sexuality.

Opera Singers left to fight their own battles

Il trovatore Covent Garden

The weekend's revival of Verdi's Il trovatore, the second of the season, gave the impression that the principals and the conductor had just flown in on the afternoon plane.



The most attractive singing came from the Azucena and the di Luna. Stefania Toczyska looks outrageously young to have reared a brawny fellow like Franco Bonisoli's Manrico.

Camden Festival Hillier/Stubbs Old St Pancras Church

Over the years the Camden Festival has mounted some fairly exotic entertainments, much to the dismay of the London borough's less culturally-minded ratepayers.

Rock Cherrelle and Alexander O'Neal Hammersmith Odeon

Although the two artists performed separately, they reconnected as a duo. "Saturday Love" and other common features of their careers, made this a sensible double bill.

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Publishing What is a book?

When the last generation or two of indigenous or eponymous publishers - the likes of Andre Deutsch, Ernest Hecht, Rupert Hart-Davis, James MacGibbon & Robert Kee, John Lehmann, John Calder - set up their plates the object of the passionate exercise was to publish particular authors.

experience little difficulty in garnering the rest they need. Will tomorrow's Shakespeare, Milton and Dickens have found their benefactor?

The Royal Ballet Giselle. "... the most theatrically satisfying and visually attractive version of the ballet I have ever seen". MAR 13, 14, 22, 24, 25, APR 2 at 7.30pm.

CONFERENCE GUERNSEY. Many of the best known names in Britain - and on the Continent have held meetings in Guernsey.

NATIONAL THEATRE JUST OPENED. British Premiere of NEIL SIMON'S BRIGHTON BEACH Memoirs. "A RICH AND LOVING PRODUCTION... Mr Simon writes wittily and from the heart".



# 7 REASONS FOR STARTING A COMPANY PENSION SCHEME NOW.

(The more hard-headed you are, the more you'll like 'em.)



## 1. SERPS is unfair and poor value for money

Once, the State Earnings Related Pension Scheme (better known as 'SERPS') was a gleam in Barbara Castle's eye (remember her?).

It was set up with the admirable objective of providing a decent pension for every employee who wasn't properly looked after by a private company scheme.

In today's cold light of day, however, SERPS looks distinctly like bad news for everyone.

For not only are the pensions it promises to its members actually very poor value for money.

But the eventual cost of providing those pensions on a 'pay as you go' basis (the way Governments pay for everything) could end up making the Trident programme look like petty cash.



## 5. Your workforce will enjoy substantial benefits. And so will you.

The management of any responsible company will take pride in ensuring that its workforce is going to enjoy full financial security in retirement. But there are also more direct business reasons for starting your own company pension scheme.

Employees who are financially secure are likely to prove both more productive and more loyal. And you'll also find that a good pension scheme can be an important factor in persuading more good people to come and work for you.



## 2. The Government is planning to make it worse

Well? What would you do? To its credit, the Government has decided to face the reality of SERPS, rather than bequeathing its unresolved problems to its successors in the 21st Century.

It is now introducing legislation to reduce the burden of SERPS on future generations.

Which, of course, means further reducing the value of future pensions many existing members can expect from SERPS.



## 6. Every day you waste means more money down the drain.

Even before the present Government began its review of pensions legislation, many companies had already elected to contract out of SERPS in order to provide better pension benefits for their employees at little cost to themselves.

Now the government has made clear its intention to run SERPS down, it makes even more sense to contract out.

Throwing good money after bad isn't a good idea, and since all contracted out schemes started now will automatically qualify for the extra 2% incentive when it becomes available, there is every reason to act immediately.



## 3. But it is prepared to give a subsidy of 6 1/4% of your wage bill if you set up your own company scheme.

Many companies don't realise that if they contract out of SERPS they qualify for a substantial saving on their National Insurance Contributions.

It amounts to a subsidy worth approximately 6 1/4% of payroll costs. A subsidy so substantial in fact, that it will cover most of the cost of running an excellent private pension scheme for the company.



## 7. Crown can set up a scheme for you without delay or problems.

Crown Financial Management is a leading pensions company that already looks after the interests of more than one million people in the UK, and which provides company pension schemes for many thousands of British companies.

Our 'Fair Deals For Retirement' Plan has been designed specifically to meet the Government's criteria for contracting out of the State Scheme and thus qualifying in full for the Government's generous subsidies.

Our organisation takes care of everything, from producing descriptive literature in your company's name and explaining the benefits to your employees at specially arranged meetings, right through to paying their pensions when they retire.

Well-deserved pensions that they would not have been able to look forward to, had you not had the foresight - and the hard-headed commercial sense - to redirect a large part of your National Insurance Contributions into your company's own pension scheme.

Stop throwing good money after bad. Send us the coupon. Now.



## 4. It intends to offer another 2% subsidy soon.

And the Government's generosity doesn't end there.

So keen are they to encourage firms to take over the role of providing employees with pensions, that the new Social Security Bill provides for the subsidy on contracted out schemes to be boosted by a further 2% of payroll costs as from early 1988.

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FAIR DEALS FOR RETIREMENT

A survey conducted in 10 countries indicates that the most disabling illness known to man has a biological basis

# Schizophrenia: the root of the problem



The forgotten illness

There are 17 million people in the world suffering from schizophrenia. A new study absolves families from most of the blame and suggests

that it is an illness and not a social condition. Marjorie Wallace reports

A worldwide epidemiological study of schizophrenia carried out by the World Health Organization over the last eight years will throw new light on the disease and may help to reveal its cause. It also has important implications for the way we cope with victims and the role played by their families.



Reassurance: Dr Jablensky

Denmark, India, Ireland, Japan, Nigeria, the United Kingdom, the United States and the Soviet Union. The researchers went to great lengths to identify all new schizophrenics in the different centres, not only through hospitals and doctors, out-patient and community centres, but also through the help of faith healers, shrines, sooth-sayers and other non-traditional sources. The total number of patients was 1,352.

that in all 10 countries the incidence of new cases of schizophrenia was virtually identical, about one per cent, of whom half were serious cases. Because social and economic conditions vary so widely between the different countries, the study showed that schizophrenia is not brought on by particular socio-economic conditions.

Similarly, because family relationships and culture vary so greatly, it is very unlikely that families cause their children's schizophrenia. "The study should relieve any feelings of guilt", Dr Jablensky says. "Families cannot be blamed and those who take comfort from the evidence that schizophrenia has a biological basis should be further reassured". He believes the study demolishes the concept of the schizophrenogenic mother, who causes schizophrenia by a mixture of over-protection and expectations of independence. But while culture and family do not affect the incidence of schizophrenia, they can dramatically alter its progress.



Paul Lamb

firmly in the WHO survey in both India and Denmark. In this and previous surveys, the pattern of poorer prognosis extended throughout the developed countries where up to half the patients became chronic schizophrenics. There are also geographic differences in symptoms. In poor countries the onset of the illness is sudden, the patient has no previous signs, he comes from a stable family background and develops strong florid symptoms, such as hallucinations. His chances of remission after the first episode are good. By contrast, in richer countries, the patient is often socially withdrawn and lives alone or in an unstable family. There are more negative symptoms such as apathy, lack of

## AN INTERNATIONAL SCANDAL

Nearly 30 years ago American psychoanalysts challenged the traditional view that schizophrenia was an illness which needed medical care. Steeped in the Freudian concept that all behaviour has its root in infancy, they believed schizophrenia was caused by early conflicts in relationships, particularly with the mother. Victims should therefore be treated by psychoanalysis rather than drugs.

people to be hospitalized against their will. Those discharged should be looked after in the community. These ideas spread through Europe during the 1960s and 1970s, becoming entangled with flower-power, intellectual socialism, student protests, left-wing resistance groups like the Baader-Meinhof gang and neo-Marxist revolutionaries. As a result of these "reforms", thousands of destitute mental patients are crowding the streets of the major cities of Europe and America and their plight is becoming an international scandal. Now the pendulum is beginning to swing back. "The anti-psychiatry movements contain the seed of their own destruction", says Professor John Wing, of the Institute of Psychiatry in London. "A lot of what they say is based on fantasy. They want to make all mentally ill people normal. But in some cases the patient is too ill and it becomes obvious in the end that it is inhumane to put such pressure on him."

### UNITED STATES

The swing has been most dramatic in the United States. "There is now a universal realization that the running down and closing of mental hospitals was a disaster", says Dr Fuller Torrey, consultant psychiatrist at St Elizabeth's Hospital, Washington. "Only last year a Texan mental hospital sent weekly busloads of patients to Houston discharging them at the terminus with either 'Family' or 'Salvation Army' on their notes. Many had nowhere to go". Half the "bag ladies" and 37 per cent of homeless men are mentally ill. It is now a hot political issue and there are powerful lobby groups in Congress.

### WEST GERMANY

In the 1960s the movement reached West Germany and became associated with various left-wing and libertarian causes. One of the most vehement was Dr Wolfgang Huber, of Heidelberg University, who attempted to put treatment into the hands of the patients. He became involved with the Baader-Meinhof gang and was imprisoned for possessing ammunition. Another group of young psychoanalysts, who called themselves the Mannheim Circle, also attempted to break away from the medical model. Through their efforts, psychiatry was redefined to exclude neurologists. "But none of them was able to change the mental health laws, or have a hospital closure policy adopted. 'Community care' is difficult to fund in Germany", says Dr Sisen Mangen, of the London School of Economics. "Unlike Britain, German health services are funded by insurance companies. Hospitals lose money when there are empty beds".

### ITALY

The anti-psychiatry movement had its major triumph in Italy. "There was a tremendous ideological movement with student protests, worker protests and then the government saw it as a lovely way of cutting down on bills. As in other countries, it was a unique fusion of left and right-wing motives", says Professor Kathleen Jones of York University, who has studied Italian mental health reform. In 1978 communist-inspired legislation prevented new patients from being admitted. The asylums faced eventual closure and many of their patients were decanted into the community. The result was crowds of abandoned, as they became known, on roadsides and railway stations. "Community care is supposed to be available, but when Professor Jones travelled through Italy in 1984, she found many areas had none."

### UNITED KINGDOM

In the UK, a plan was put forward in 1961 to close many of the old-fashioned asylums. But it was nearly three years before the civil liberties people took up the Government's plan and the analyst Ronald Laing became a cult figure with his theory that families create madness. In the mid-1960s, Larry Gostin, an American lawyer, came to this country and, working with MIND (National Association for Mental Health) lobbied for hospitals to be closed and championed the cause of patients detained compulsorily. The movement has been successful in forcing changes to the Mental Health Act (1983) which make it more difficult to treat a patient who is so ill he refuses help.

### FRANCE

Psychoanalysis has always been very popular in France and anti-psychiatry ideas were eagerly taken up, especially by the intellectual left and Communist Party. As in Germany, the definition of psychiatry was changed to exclude the neurologists. France has a programme of hospital closures and a

### SWEDEN

Despite similar pressures from civil liberties groups, the Swedish government has adopted a cautious approach. "Politicians are slowing down the closure of mental hospitals and a report lobbying for reforms in mental health laws has just been rejected", says Dr Friso-Axel Wiesel from the Karolinska Institute. "We are learning the lessons of America and Italy. We do not like big institutions but they are better than being discharged with no alternatives in the community."

## ATTENTION: HOLDERS OF CABLE AND WIRELESS PARTLY-PAID SHARES

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This is a notice to those holding partly-paid shares in Cable and Wireless plc. If you hold partly-paid shares in Cable and Wireless plc, whether acquired in the December 1985 share sale or since, you are reminded that the second and final instalment of 287p per share is due shortly.

You should ensure that your cheque or bankers' draft arrives not later than 3.00 pm (London time) on 7th March, 1986. If your payment is for £10,000 or more, it must arrive sufficiently early to be cleared by that time.

All cheques or bankers' drafts should be made payable to "National Westminster Bank" and should be crossed "C and W Offer."

You should send your cheque or bankers' draft and the letter of acceptance for your shares to the address shown on page 3 of your letter of acceptance.

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## A salmon's ally in the sky

Poaching is a big and lucrative business in Scotland. But river bailiffs are fighting back - from the air



Sky spy: spotting poachers from the air

David Smith, Inspector of Sea Fisheries for South East Scotland, scans the bleak stretch of estuary, 500ft below. It is not a good day for poachers, with drizzle driven on a bitter wind, and a heavy swell hammering the Berwickshire coast. The Department of Agriculture and Fisheries for Scotland's air patrol is cruising along at cliff-top height, so low that salt water has to be hosed off after each sortie.

Each year the department spends £10 million guarding Scottish waters against all kinds of illegal fishing. The cover extends from Rockall, where the work is done by RAF Nimrod maritime surveillance aircraft, to the in-shore waters, where combined tactics are used: the air patrol, a helicopter with fishery officers on board, a fleet of offshore patrol vessels and fast inflatable launches.

Some cases of stone throwing. We have had poachers breaking into property to retrieve confiscated nets and salmon. Someone drilled holes in the launch, but overall I believe we have turned the tables on them", Mr Smith says.

The most bizarre retaliation was reported by the

department's helicopter which had spotted an illegal net beneath a cliff, along the top of which ran a golf course. The aircraft radioed for ground assistance and hovered over the net to make sure no one moved it. The aircraft was then peited with golfballs from the cliff-top.

Infra-red night glasses, image intensifiers and radar have made even moonless nights unsafe for poachers, who now wear balaclava helmets to hide their identity from DAFS photographers. The cameras automatically record the position, time, date and heading of the vessel and this evidence is now accepted in court. One man accused of poaching told the court that he wore a balaclava back to front to guard against jellyfish stings. Poachers now rarely look up when a patrol flies overhead.

Ronald Faux

## CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 889)

CROSSWORD puzzle grid with clues: 1 Light motorbike (5), 4 Nightclub (6), 8 Guides (5), 9 Memory loss (7), 10 Music writer (8), 11 Run away (4), 13 Sulky (11), 17 Mature (4), 18 Striking (8), 21 Sudden wealth (7), 22 Seep (5), 23 Sheltered side (7), 24 Drive out (5). DOWN: 1 Evil intent (6), 2 Sacred song (5), 3 Empty (8), 4 Fillet steak (13), 5 Shell-like bed (4), 6 Determine (7), 7 Journey (6), 12 Charge (8), 14 Trespass (7), 15 Clannish (6), 16 Acknowledge (6), 19 Cassefort par (5), 20 S. American Indian (4).

Advertisement for a mobile phone: "break the communication barrier", "without breaking the bank. £1,295".

# Unleashing an Iron Maiden

Thierry Ramon/GAMMA

**Pearson Phillips follows the best known business woman in France as she temporarily trades her Porsche and furs for the promise of political power**



Francine Gomez: "It is important never to commit yourself in politics to anything that is utterly, indelibly factual"

The so-called "Iron Maiden of France" is just a centimetre over five feet tall, has green eyes, fashionably streaked blonde hair and a dangerous habit of making controversial asides to journalists.

There are other important ways in which Madame Francine Gomez differs from her alleged prototype, Britain's Margaret Thatcher. She is 53, but looks about 40, and has just taken a third husband, an advertising man in his late thirties. (Her second husband was Alain Gomez, now head of the nationalized Thomson Company, which among other things makes Exocet missiles.)

She also decided that it was up to her to do her duty to French architecture. Unlike our own "Iron Maiden", she decided to give carte blanche to a young architect to design her country house. The result looks like a large concrete abstract sculpture, squatting on a Provencal hillside; she is delighted with it.

There is one other important difference: Mme Gomez has never yet won a political election, though having watched her in the current national and local election campaign in the southern French city of Nîmes, I would say that is about to change.

How, then, did she get her nickname? I saw her in a street market handing out leaflets which showed her arm-in-arm with right-wing prime ministerial hopeful Jacques Chirac. Customers and market traders greeted her with cries of "Ah... Waterman, Waterman..." for she is best known as the woman who runs the company that makes this famous brand of fountain pen.

**She fired a third of her staff, and retired her mother**

She has run it, moreover, with the ruthless "Iron Maiden" qualities which French folklore (and pop songs) link with "Thatcherism". Successful women bosses are rare in French industry. She has therefore regularly decorated French television as the statutory female managing director.

"In France," she says, "the only way for a woman to get on has been to concentrate on fashion, perfume or the media. Either that or she must have the power given by a majority of shares in a family company."

That was her method. The French agency for the American Waterman Pen Company was previously headed by her formidable Scottish grandmother. Her mother took it over but was not successful. When Mme Gomez joined the company in 1969, her only business experience had come from running her own art gallery and antique furniture shop. Fountain pens were going out of fashion. Waterman was losing £400,000 a year and facing bankruptcy. She was put under the wing of the joint managing director, a cousin, and told to get to know the company.

Within two years she had "dusted the place off". She fired 10 of the top management, including her cousin ("His four secretaries cost too much"), sacked a third of the staff and eased her mother and the managing director into retirement. She appointed a new managing director, fired him after a few months ("Power had gone to his head") and took over the whole business. The grand oak-panelled headquarters in the Boulevard de la Madeleine were exchanged for small offices in the 17th arrondissement. She brought in a new team, including designers and marketing experts.

She saw a future for the fountain pen in a world dominated by the ballpoint. By the middle of the 1970s sales had doubled and profits were £1.8 million and rising. She bought the rights to the Waterman trademark from the American and British owners and launched Waterman-SA as a public company on the French stock exchange in 1975. She is now battling for world markets with her chief rival, the Parker Pen Company of America.

As part of the battle she arrives in London tomorrow for an appearance at a Harrods "French Week" gala with Princess Stephanie of Monaco and the French ambassador. But what about her election campaign? Voting is on March 16. Again she departs from the Thatcher model. Politics is all very well, but she finds it a relief to escape from "that curious environment of egocentricity and narcissism which is involved in an election campaign".

As a candidate she feels like "a tacking suitcase, taken from hotel to hotel, unpacked, packed up again and taken somewhere else. She says about politics: "Truth does not exist. Everything is fluctuating, wavering. Whatever happens it is important never to commit yourself in politics to anything that is utterly, indelibly factual." For her it is a relief to get back to "the eternal, solid truths of facts and figures which business provides."

She has been forced into some fluctuations herself. She has abandoned her black Porsche temporarily and drives a more sober Saab for electoral appearances. "And I was in trouble because the only coats I owned to keep out this cold weather were furs. But they told me I couldn't make politics in those. So I had to buy a cloth coat for the campaign. Isn't it ridiculous? Why can't people be the way they are?"

Even the leaflets she was handing out didn't show things quite the way they are, as she gleefully explained. "I look quite tall beside Monsieur Chirac, no? But as you see I am not tall. It is because I was standing on a plank."

**She is being launched like one of her ex-husband's Exocets**

With such apparent disdain for the political game, how did she get mixed up in it in the first place? "Well, the world of business... I begin to know him. So I think it important to know this world of politics, where they make decisions which have so much effect on our lives and our businesses. I like to have some say in this."

During the 1984 European elections she organized a list of fellow industrialists and

men and women who had done something with their lives". She hoped French voters would turn to people of proven success in fields other than politics to "make the European ideal work". On her list were such people as Marielle Goitschel, three times Olympic skiing gold medal winner. The result? Voters virtually ignored them.

She classifies her own performance during the campaign as "between pathetic and pitiable". The experience cost her much money and grief, but she wrote a funny, indiscreet book, *On Ne Badine Pas Avec La Politique* (One Shouldn't Joke With Politics). She isn't joking now. She has been clever to get the organization and money of Chirac's RPR party behind her, although she is not herself a party member. She is apparently being launched, like one of her ex-husband's missiles, against one of the RPR's main adversaries, the current Mayor of Nîmes. "I don't dislike the smell of gunpowder", she says.

One of her concerns is that the Roman amphitheatre in Nîmes is being used for bull fighting, a popular local spectacle. And she is going to come out publicly against it? "It is more practical to get elected first - then do something about it."

Spoken, as she would say, like a politician.

# Just the lady for m'Lord



**PENNY PERRICK**

I have decided what I want to be when I grow up. I want to be the sort of woman adored by Lord Weidenfeld. What His Lordship really goes for, according to one observer, are "women who are beautiful and who look like they don't have a thought in their heads, but who turn out to be incredibly intelligent."

Imagine the lovely time one could have by looking so deceptive. Men would come swarming around, thinking that they were on to a good thing, and then you could bore them into a stupor by delivering a thesis on some obscure Jacobean poet. Unless one of them happened to be Lord Weidenfeld, of course. He would be mesmerized by every pearl from one's scarlet lips.

This is not an ambition likely to be fulfilled. My appearance gives every impression that I am more intelligent than I am. This is because I often forget to put on lipstick or to collect my best dress from the cleaner. Everyone assumes my head is teeming with thoughts, and some people get rather upset when they discover it's full of cotton wool, something that only peaches and cream blondes are allowed to get away with.

What I feel I am about to turn into is something even more confusing than the Weidenfeld Woman, namely the Indomitable One, or as the film critic of *Family Fair* calls her, the Rambo-ette.

Indomitable women get that way through circumstances rather than choice - no one wants to go through life with rolled-up sleeves, pushing straggling strands of hair behind your ears and wiping beads of moisture from your upper lip. But indomitable is the only way to go when, as in my case, you suddenly find yourself alone with the mortgage repayments and a curtain-rack that needs fixing.

It's amazing how quickly the word gets around that you are no longer silly and helpless. Within minutes, men expect you to book the restaurant table when they ask you out to lunch, and colleagues are confident that you will never let them down by getting "flu even when an epidemic is raging."

Indomitable women don't

have too bad a time of it since, although they are not handed life on a plate, at least no one is going to stop them striding out and grabbing it. They do make mistakes, though, especially when they begin to miss all the sweet, feminine things in life, which leads them to fall hook, line and sinker for young men with blow-dried hair and pink cashmere pullovers who make a great salad dressing.

They can also become pretty nasty towards more domitable women who have regular hairdressing appointments and go all goofy when asked to fill in their own tax return. I am really quite ashamed of myself that, instead of taking a live and let live attitude towards women who take to their bed when they have a slight headache, I narrow my eyes and mutter "wimpette".

Luckily, for some of us, the indomitable seems to be right in style at the moment. First of all there were all those films starring Sally Field where our heroine fought for trade union recognition or harvested a cotton crop practically single-handed. Now there is *Out of Africa*, which has led to a craze in indomitable dressing, namely jodhpurs and those no-nonsense jackets.

With some trepidation, I bought a pair of jodhpurs, hoping that they didn't look as if my thighs were filling out the baggy bits. But they have been a big success. As a man with impeccable taste said, "They really bring you out." And that is more than a sweetly pretty taffeta party frock has ever been able to do.

# Homing in to a pigeon hole

Nicky Raynsford, the Labour candidate for Fulham, says that he is not "someone who espouses labels" and does not like to have a tag on him that reads "cuddly Left". And then he rather spoils his argument by sticking the label "pragmatic radical" on himself. Mr Raynsford is not the first person to find that labelling is unavoidable and that you might as well write out your own before somebody else does it for you.

Coming from rather a starry family, I progressed from being my mother's daughter,

through being introduced as my husband's wife and then my children's mother, which probably accounts for my rather negative personality. On the other hand, it gave people something to go on when forced into a situation where making conversation with me was imperative.

And I have fared better than most: for example, the lady who wherever she goes knows that her hostess is bisping behind her hand to the assembled company that she is so-and-so's ex-mistress. It is the "ex" that must rankle us.

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# A child's right to justice

**The Government is planning to channel domestic disputes into a single court - but where will this leave the children?**

The first step in a radical reform of the legal system to allow family issues, such as custody and divorce, to be taken into a new "family court" structure, is expected at Easter.

Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone, the Lord Chancellor, will set out the Government's detailed plans and although the changes are not expected to become law until the next parliament, many experts believe it marks an end to the confusing and protracted system of hearing cases in splintered areas of jurisdiction.

At the moment family cases are heard before magistrates and judges who also deal with criminal matters - juvenile courts, magistrates' courts, the county court and the High Court. Because of their similarity with the adversarial procedures of criminal cases, hearings can actually widen the differences between parents, perhaps most damagingly in questions of access in divorce cases.

Some campaigners, however, believe the changes will not go far enough. Mary Ryan, of the Family Rights Group, believes the Lord Chancellor's plans will not provide the means to include children in care in the family court structure. Child care is currently the subject of a Department of Health and Social Security review - an interdepartmental working party reported to ministers last September.

"At the moment you can have a child in care being the subject of proceedings in sever-



**Family courts are a big success abroad**

"The child gets the raw deal because everything is so confused and it takes so long for the final decision to be reached. Time works against parents who want to get their children home."

It is more than 10 years since the Finer Report advocated radical changes in the way our judicial system handles family matters. Finer's emphasis was on dealing with family breakdown in a humane way its conclusions reflecting the fact that care proceedings are often a response to marital collapse. Finer wanted to create a unified system of matrimonial law in impartial, informal courts with an emphasis on conciliation

# TALKBACK

# Porridge penitence

From Mrs Wendy Hawkin, Mill Way, Rickmansworth, Hertfordshire.

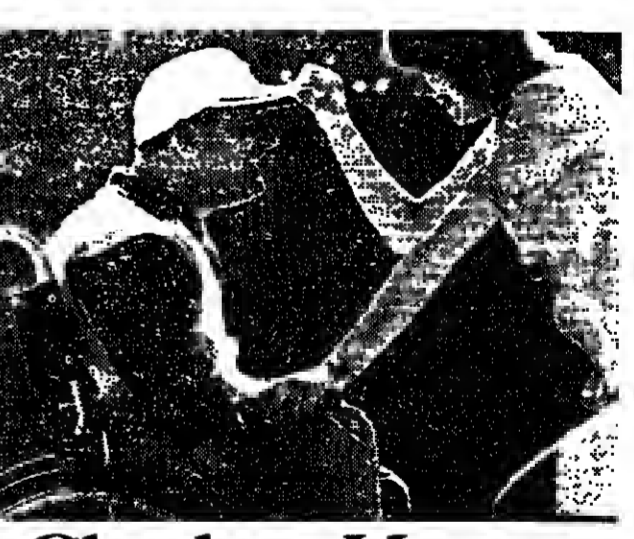
I found Christine Brown's comments on giving up for Lent (Wednesday Page, February 12), very interesting. One of the reasons that so many of us need to go on a diet is our perpetual self-indulgence against which Lent is a necessary antidote.

My solution is to give up all food except porridge for Lent. This cannot except by an amazing stretch of the imagination, be called a diet and performs the function of abstinence (from flesh, fowl, fats, etc). It shows me that, for a short period at least, I am able to refrain from the excesses of our modern society - the year when I cannot tackle or maintain my Lenten regime will mean that the battle with self-control is completely lost.

And, of course, porridge is good for you: it contains all sorts of essential vitamins and other nutrients, especially as I have it made with salt and served with a dash of sugar and milk.

Meatless out can be provided for by taking supplies in a wide-necked vacuum flask, or by nibbling at outcakes (which I allow myself for such occasions). Yes, there is a small weight loss each year, but the main benefit is to my character and, dare I say it, my soul.

The conclusive reason why giving up anything for Lent cannot be a diet is that the 40 days do not include Sundays, which are feast days (count the days from Ash Wednesday to Easter and check). Thus one can eat normally on the Sabbath a treat forbidden in those on a strict diet routine.



# Cheshire Homes are all about caring...in so many ways.

The residents in Leonard Cheshire Homes are very severely handicapped men, women and children suffering from a wide range of conditions. Sometimes unable to speak, or to move much more than a hand or foot.

A Cheshire Home offers them much more than just physical care. It gives them the dignity and freedom that is their right as incontinent, the opportunity of friendship, a sense of purpose and a chance to participate.

There are 75 Cheshire Homes in the United Kingdom and a further 47 in 45 countries throughout the world. All of them have been made possible by the efforts of dedicated volunteers and by generous charitable donations.

We also teach our elderly and disabled people living in their own homes and to families with a handicapped member who may be struggling alone in isolation and despair. Our Family Support Services in England provide vital part-time help at crucial times of the day - a lifeline, indeed. But many, many more services are needed to plug the yawning gaps in state provision. Only 2.2% of our income is spent on administering this huge charity. This means that almost all the money we receive goes in DIVERE help to those in need.

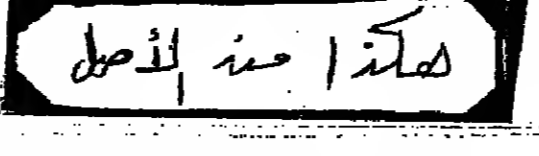
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THE TIMES DIARY

Short arm of the law

Members of the West Midlands constabulary may this week move towards jailing the county's police committee...

Off target

Those really in the know this year? Members of the public workers' union, Nupe...

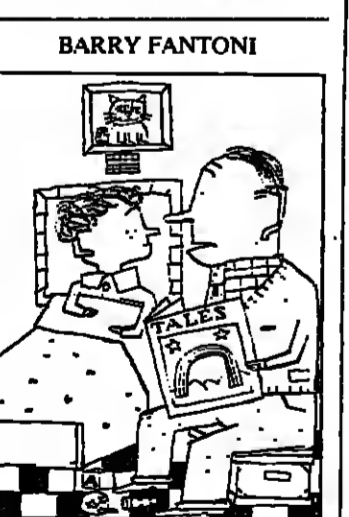
Is London Underground planning to reintroduce horse power following technical hitches this winter?

Regulars

Those who liken the House of Lords when the division bells ring to Brands Hatch...

Double trouble

A politician friend couldn't believe his eyes when he read Robert Barnard's new political thriller Political Suicide...



And there at the end of the rainbow... was JMB

Voice under

I think I have found the man behind David Owen's odd speech in which he pleaded for more independent TV production companies...

How Lawson can go for jobs

by Terence Beckett

The task facing Nigel Lawson in preparing his Budget - now only two weeks away - is not an enviable one...

Our objective is to make work more attractive to the low-paid, and to ease the poverty and unemployment traps...

standards. Our proposals would do a great deal to help them. Given the propensity of consumers to spend their money on imported rather than home-produced goods...

700,000 new jobs have been created. Critics argue that many of these are part-time, and of no real value. But for many people with other commitments and interests...

Olof Palme was an unlikely representative of the egalitarian Sweden he sought to build...

Geoffrey Smith pays tribute to Olof Palme, silver-spoon socialist who combined private courtesy with public abrasiveness

The enigma always ready to do battle



over the years. It certainly made him an engaging one. I recall an occasion in Karisrad during a general election campaign...

taxation, the frustrations of bureaucracy and the mounting evidence of middle-class protest...

Sweden was never the model of a modern society that it was once supposed to be. Its level of direct taxation has for years been too high...

In his later years Palme appeared to mellow, or perhaps it would be more accurate to say that he appreciated the political necessity of compromising...

Schooling: what London thinks

Anne Sofer

Regular readers of this column will recall the tale I told some weeks ago about the MORI opinion poll which the Inner London Education Authority partly misinterpreted and partly suppressed...

The two opinion polls carried out by MORI in September 1984 and January 1985, paid for by the ratepayers and used by the ILEA in its publicity campaign...

Table showing MORI poll results for 'Quality of state education' by class and area.

Perhaps that is what you would expect in an inner city area. It is possible to point to the large number of 'don't knows' as an explanation of the low positive response...

moreover... Miles Kington Get your free serf here

1986 is the 900th anniversary of the publication of the Domesday Book. Yes, that's right - 900 years ago the bookshelves of England were stacked with copies of the Domesday Book...

Budget-cutters eye the Nato sacred cow

Washington President Reagan's televised winter offensive designed to win public support for his increasingly unpopular military build-up may signal hard times ahead for European defence programmes...

priorities are resulting in harsh scrutiny of the big items that have so far remained immune from the long arms of budget cutters. Of these, Nato is a prime target...

former National Security Adviser, Zbigniew Brzezinski, who have urged new approaches in Europe. This does not mean that Congress is about to demand a unilateral withdrawal of US troops from Europe...

The point is that in these times of hard choices, many Americans want Europeans to do more. Robert Komer, defence undersecretary for policy during the Carter administration, fears there is a danger of losing control of this growing opinion...

PHS

Bailey Morris



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## SETTLING NOTHING

Grand gestures of protest are great generators of myth and illusion. The first myth likely to be propagated about today's stoppage in Northern Ireland is that it somehow settles the question of the Anglo-Irish agreement. It can do no such thing.

There will no doubt be argument over exactly how much was stopped for how long and whether by intimidation or by free choice. The government will point to its patchiness and to the strategic and tactical confusion among unionist politicians. The strike organizers will point to the depth and breadth of their support and hint that an indefinite stoppage would force the government to meet their demand for the complete abandonment of the Hillsborough treaty.

A single day strike, although attracting a great deal of attention, cannot answer the key question: how far or how many members of the Protestant majority are ready to go on testing the government's will power? Today, many of them can stay at home, shut their shop, take their tractor to a roadblock without fear of serious consequences. What proportion of them would be ready to do the same indefinitely? Since the conditions of 1986 are not the same as those of 1974, when a strike brought down the power-sharing executive, there can be no precise answer in advance.

But the hesitant attitude of some unionist politicians, and of the Reverend Ian Paisley of the Democratic Unionists in particular, may provide a clue. Dr Paisley, for all his impeccable bluster, has seemed curiously reluctant to force the issue as early as this - until he, and the Official Unionists' Mr James Moloney, were pushed into it last week.

In 1986, the unionists are set to confront a Conservative Party secure in government which feels less sympathy for unionism than it did a dozen years ago. That sympathy is further diminished: the more

the protest is dominated by para-militaries or their political apologists. British public opinion sees, again, the spectacle of unionism setting out to destroy what British governments have tentatively built. It is not a sight calculated to win support for the unionist case among the mainland electorate.

It must be open to question whether the Hillsborough agreement has become enough of a target to persuade large numbers of people to take risks with their livelihood to destroy it. In 1974 there was a new local government, administering services alongside plans for a "Council of Ireland". This time there is a treaty, a barely visible secretariat and occasional communiques. Only certain causes will mobilize unionist reaction.

In 1977 Dr Paisley's booming strike call in favour of tougher security was humiliatingly ignored by his own community. Twelve years ago the level of terrorist violence, and the accompanying fear and insecurity was far higher than now. More troops are today available to the government for strike-breaking. Lastly, there are the personalities at Downing Street. In 1974, unionists dealt with Mr Heath, distracted and then defeated by the miners, followed by Mr Harold Wilson (as he then was). They now face Mrs Thatcher.

None of these changes, by itself, guarantees that the Hillsborough agreement will survive, but taken together they offer a hope that the government will feel secure enough to call the unionists' bluff. The volatile flux of personalities and tactical disagreements which characterize the various umbrella organizations promoting the strike is evidence enough that the real strength of opposition to the agreement cannot yet be measured. If the signs, and the rise of Dr Paisley's deputy, Mr Peter Robinson, at the front of the hardliners, show that there

## BACK TO BASICS

As the teachers' dispute has dragged on, some people have been tempted to depict Mr Fred Jarvis, General Secretary of the main combatant union, the National Union of Teachers, in demonic terms. Some, even more fancifully, have made comparisons with Mr Scargill. Events over the past few days might seem to have endorsed that view.

At a very late stage in negotiations, long after the other teacher unions had signalled their acceptance of a formula worked out in ACAS and secured their members' adherence to it, Mr Jarvis has threatened to bring the culture temple of a negotiated settlement down around their ears. The NUT has gone to lawyers and now claims that the very institution on which any settlement has to be based, the statutory Burnham negotiating committee, cannot legally refer to or even mention the essence of the agreement on assessment of teachers and their terms of work. Burnham meets later today in a mood of confusion and rancour.

The view of Mr Jarvis as a wrecking ball is wrong. He is merely a union official, like others, worried about ambitious fellow officials and about political balance among his lay members. Like other public sector unionists he rarely has time to worry about the public.

But this weekend, Mr Jarvis has done a service. His intervention and threat of lawyers is apathy. There is a gross flaw in the very constitution of Burnham, something that has been obvious for years and something about which the government and Sir Keith Joseph have been entirely

complacent. By law, Burnham is about salaries. For generations teachers' conditions of service have hardly been talked about, let alone talked about within the confines of the committee where pay is considered. A legal verdict in the NUT's favour will, at long last, force the government to revise the Remuneration of Teachers Act.

Mr Jarvis has done more. Throughout the dispute he has displayed consistency. He wants more money for teachers and he wants it without strings. His union, representing a large number, does not want assessment, grading, or lightened contracts. They want, in short, the old ir-responsibility with new levels of pay.

There is the major issue of the dispute. Not the only issue: it parallels the question of the relative adequacy of teachers' remuneration and the implied low value put on their work by their pay levels. But it is the issue that has to be settled, sooner or later.

According to the ACAS formula, it may be later. An agreement in Burnham will only lead to talks in another committee, the Council of Local Education Authorities/School Teachers Committee. So Mr Jarvis's intransigence dramatizes once again the reason why this dispute has lingered, at such cost to the day-to-day convenience of parents and with such harmful consequences to the reputation of publicly-maintained schools, individually and collectively.

There are those, parents and policy-makers, who at this

is a solid grass-roots militancy ready to press an all-out strike, then the government will face the stiffest test immediately.

But the Official Unionists' insistence on trying to leave the door to talks open shows that they know they may have rejected too much too soon. They are vulnerable to the argument - which ministers should impress upon them - that they are trying to end an agreement that holds benefits and opportunities which they had not even tested, let alone enjoyed.

Unionism is more heterogeneous than sometimes appears. It is divided by class, between two mutually mistrustful political parties, by differences of Protestant doctrine and over the ultimate aim of its political negotiations with governments in London. Moderate unionists continue to be nervous about finding themselves manoeuvred into the cul-de-sac of UDI. Extremist politicians can create an atmosphere in which it is impossible for moderates to be heard. But that is not necessarily the same as a climate in which hundreds of thousands of people will be prepared to paralyse the life of the Province for weeks on end.

But if that is what it does come to, the government's stance will need to switch from explanation to assertion of its control of essential services. It would be guilty of gross irresponsibility if it had embarked on the activities of the last few months without the capacity to defend itself against the ultimate unionist sanction. This more aggressive pose would be represented as the oppression of a democratic majority for unworthy ends; it would be the execution of Parliament's decision in the face of opposition from a minority within the United Kingdom. There is no better recruiting sergeant for terrorist organizations than a British government that cannot make its own political initiatives work.

justly censured by an admittedly heterogeneous majority in the Greek Cypriot parliament, composed of his pro-Nato rival, Mr Glafcos Klerides on the one hand, and on the other of Communists. Similar points were made at the time by other leading international papers, including *The Economist* and the *Wall Street Journal*.

Moreover, the political leadership in Athens and the Greek Cypriot leaders in Cyprus have hailed the wisdom and acceptability of the recent "Soviet proposals" on Cyprus. This is tantamount to a total rejection of all basic accords previously reached at various summit meetings between Turkish and Greek

Cypriot leaders since 1974. It also constitutes a fundamental divergence from the UN Secretary General's basic framework to settle the Cyprus problem.

The Greek Prime Minister, Mr Papandreu, who has his own axe to grind over the Aegean dispute between Turkey and Greece, appears to encourage Mr Kyprianos to keep the dispute alive in the hope that this will continue to be a source of international pressure on Turkey. And that is a big obstacle to durable peace in Cyprus.

Yours faithfully,  
TANSEL FIRKI,  
London Representative,  
Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus,  
28 Cockspar Street, SW1.

## Peace in Cyprus

From the London Representative of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus  
Sir, Contrary to what your leader (February 18) suggests, it was not Mr Denktaş who caused the breakdown of the UN initiative of January, 1985. nor has it been the Turkish Cypriot leader who has discouraged the right kind of climate for progress.  
In a leader on March 2, 1985 ("A Greek error") *The Times* commented that Mr Kyprianos expressed "reservations and qualifications about every point" in the January document which "Mr Denktaş was ready to sign", and that "For his blunder, the President (Mr Kyprianos) was

## Backward look at better English

From Mr David Gadsby

Sir, Professor E.H. Brown and others (February 25) "are concerned at the near collapse in our schools' teaching of syntax of English". They repeat many of the assertions which were made to the Bullock Committee of Inquiry into the Use of English, whose report was published in 1975. May I, however, refer them to the opening of that report?

In any anxiety over a contemporary situation there is likely to be a wistful look back to the past, with a conviction, often illusory, that times were better then than now. And the times people claim to have been better are generally within the span of their own lives.

The report went on to quote evidence given to the Bullock committee in 1921, where Vickers reported "great difficulty in obtaining junior clerks who can speak and write English clearly and correctly". Lever Bros said

It is a great surprise and disappointment to us to find that our young employees are so hopelessly deficient in their command of English; and Boots Pure Drug Co. remarked that the "teaching of English in the present day schools produces a very limited command of the English language.

Have Professor Brown and his colleagues any objective evidence for their assertion that the present-day school-leavers "has a worse command of English than those school-leavers who were so criticized by Vickers. Lever Bros and Boots? The Bullock committee found no such evidence. It did, however, say that "standards of reading and writing need to be raised to fulfil the increasingly exacting demands made on them

by modern society" - which is quite another matter.  
Yours faithfully,  
DAVID GADSBY (Member, Bullock committee),  
Joint Managing Director,  
A & C Black (Publishers) Limited,  
35 Bedford Row, WC1.

From Professor John Honey  
Sir, The biggest obstacle to the teaching of a more serviceable form of English (as recommended by the engineering professors, February 25) is the limitations of knowledge among the teachers themselves.

Reforms in the syllabus of teacher education courses in recent years have helped matters. But it is all too common to find class teachers who are not able to explain to pupils how language works, or even how to handle basic grammatical terminology. They are mostly products of that long era when the myth prevailed that the teaching of formal grammar produced no demonstrable improvements in pupils' writing. Research is exposing that myth, but its ill effects have been compounded by the virtual disappearance of Latin from most schools and the present decline in the teaching of French and other modern languages, which at least gave pupils a general understanding of how language works.

Any realistic campaign to improve English language teaching in schools and in higher education would require extensive retraining of teachers which, to be effective, would have to be both compulsory and tested.  
Yours faithfully,  
JOHN HONEY,  
5 Woods Close,  
Oadby, Leicestershire.

## "Thinking big"

From Lord Balfour of Burleigh  
Sir, Sir John Hoskyns is right in saying (February 20) that anyone interested in the Government's policy towards BRIC should read David Watt's article of February 14, which deals with all foreign industrial investment into this country.

Having picked my way through various targets vigorously attacked by Sir John, I hope I understood him correctly in advocating a free-marketing economy.

David Watt, in reporting his discussions with bankers and industrialists, moves forward from acceptance of a free market in practice to the very important conclusion that Britain's interests in the case of inward investment are best safeguarded if those who make the corporate decisions live in this country. Those who have run companies overseas in this way will know how important this is both to the company itself and to the host country.

## Obscenity and law

From the President of the National Viewers' and Listeners' Association  
Sir, In view of the personalised nature of your leader writer's attack (February 24), may I make it clear that the so-called "laundry list" of perverted sexual practices was no part of the Bill we offered to Mr Churchill. Our Bill was concerned, first, to make a reality of the unfulfilled intention of Parliament "to strengthen the law on pornography" with the Obscene Publications Act (1959).  
We proposed, first, that the clause "a tendency to deprave and corrupt" be replaced by one which provided for the judgement of "a reasonable adult at the time that person first reads, hears or sees the matter concerned". And secondly, our Bill would have removed the exemption within the present Act which excludes broadcasting from any charge under its provisions.

It may also be of interest to your readers to know that we asked the Director of Public Prosecutions to institute proceedings, under the Broadcasting Act, against the IBA for allowing the transmission of the sex films *Jubilee* and *Sebastiane*.

In his reply (February 17) the Director states that in view of "the exemption provided by the Obscene Publications Act," and the fact that the breach of the duty imposed by the Broadcasting Act 1981 "does not create a criminal offence" he is of the view that "the criminal law cannot be invoked" in this matter.  
Yours faithfully,  
MARY WHITEHOUSE,  
President, National Viewers' and Listeners' Association,  
Ardleigh,  
Colchester,  
Essex.  
February 24.

## Oil price question

From Professor Emeritus John Fremlin

I find David Hall's assumption (February 21) that the present drop in oil prices should determine CEEB policy on Sizewell almost incredibly shortsighted. The world's oil is very limited and when the present glut has been used the finding and exploitation of new supplies, with the inevitable increase in world population and consequently of demand, must inevitably be more expensive than ever before. Any North Sea oil that we can save now will be worth several times as much in a decade or so's time.

If the Sizewell power station is built it will be working for two or three decades into next century, when any oil that we can save now can be an export of enormous value; and the coal that is then saved will be available for the production of the liquid or gaseous fuel that we shall vitally need when the oil runs out.

Yours faithfully,  
JOHN FREMLIN,  
16 Verno Road,  
Edgbaston,  
Birmingham.  
February 22.

## Traitors in 1940

From Sir John Winnifrith

Sir, My former colleague, Hugh Gardner, recalls in his letter (February 22) his successful transport of the sheep on Romney Marsh to the invasion scare of 1940. For this operation he deserves great credit, (though what happened to all the cattle left behind to be slaughtered by the Germans?)

The War Office, however, got no credit if what they told the Ministry of Agriculture describes their plan to deal with a German invasion of South-east England by breaching the embankments and flooding Romney Marsh.

This had indeed been the plan favoured by George III in 1794. The list of 21 farmers bene in Appledore, their wagons and their orders for the route they were to follow into the Weald still survive. The same plan was dusted and handed to the GOC, General Sir David Dundas, when, in 1804, Napoleon was mustering his Armée d'Angleterre and preparing his landing craft in all the adjoining creeks and harbours.

The general sent his staff officer for field works, Lt Col John Brown, to "recc" the marsh. He speedily discerned that it was impossible to flood the marsh by

## Success story of the vicuña

From the Hon President of the Peruvian Zoological Society  
Sir, I would like to pay tribute to the World Wildlife Fund for its help in saving the vicuña from extinction. This gentle member of the cameloid family lives in the Andes of Argentina, Bolivia, Chile and Peru. It produces the finest wool in the world, but unfortunately its golden fleece makes it an attractive prey to the poacher.

In 1962 Ian MacPhail, International Campaigns Director of the fund, arranged for the Ministry of Overseas Development to seed the distinguished conservationist, Major Ian Grimwood, on a two-year study, which resulted in a blueprint on which all Peruvian conservation laws and national parks are based. He suggested that there were about 5,000 vicuña left in Peru and 5,000 to be found in the other three Andean countries.

Acting on his advice, reserves were established, guard-posts were constructed and what followed is one of the greatest conservation success stories in the last 50 years. The Peruvian population was increased to 100,000 and total population within the habitat range is now something like 140,000.

Two years ago it was found possible to capture and shear vicuña (as the Incas did) and translocate them over long distances to other suitable areas on the basis of not having all the golden eggs in one basket.

It is hoped in the not too distant future that cloth woven from sheared live vicuña bearing proper identification marks will be on legal sale on the luxury markets of Europe, thus benefiting both the vicuña and the local peasant.

Last year the President conferred the highest honour in Peru - the Orden del Sol del Peru - on Ian MacPhail for his services to conservation in Peru over the past 23 years. He is the first naturalist ever to receive it.

In a recent letter to me the Duke of Edinburgh said, "It is encouraging to know that the Peruvian Government is willing to reward those who work for conservation". I would also like to express our heartfelt thanks to Great Britain for its help and support in the past.

Yours faithfully,  
FELIPE BENAVIDES,  
Hon President,  
Peruvian Zoological Society,  
335 Avenida El Golf Los Inkas,  
Monterrico,  
Lima,  
Peru.  
February 21.

## Tax anomaly

From Mr John F. Avery Jones  
Sir, Mr Tester (February 26) is a little unfair in suggesting that whether more than one acre of garden is exempt from capital gains tax depends on the whim of a particular district valuer. In fact, the additional area is the amount the special or general commissioners (independent appeal bodies) are satisfied, having regard to the size and character of the house, is required for the reasonable enjoyment of the residence.

Since the criteria are laid down, a taxpayer will be able to obtain advice on the likely result if he took an appeal to the commissioners.

Yours faithfully,  
J. F. AVERY JONES,  
Bouverie House,  
154 Fleet Street, EC4.  
February 26.

## All-rounder

From Mr A. A. Mort  
Sir, Can anyone better my total of 18 jobs, all with different employers - page boy, errand boy, lift attendant, waiter, bar-cellarman, dining-ear attendant, dairy worker, gas-board fitter, electrician's mate, stage artist, farm-hand, clerk, rent collector, regular soldier, bodyman, painter, furceman, laundry hand?

No, I never owned a bike!  
Yours faithfully,  
A. A. MORT,  
4 Denison Road,  
Leeds, West Yorkshire.

letting in the sea. It needed three or four high tides to flood even part of it and most of the water that came in on the flood returned to the sea on the ebb.

The general scrapped the plan and adopted Col Brown's alternative of building the Royal Military Canal, with Col Twiss's Martello towers defending the coast. The canal, though also a useful defence line, was primarily to provide rapid transport of men and munitions to whatever point was threatened by invading troops.

If my colleague's report of what the War Office told him in 1940 is a true reflection of their defence plan, they had failed to study Col Brown's conclusions or to get proper advice about the possibility of flooding the marsh. The Germans did better. Their invasion plan (in the Imperial War Museum) provided for a parachute drop behind Hythe and a number of landings along the coast. Even a flooded marsh would have been no problem. Access to a harbour would have been much more difficult.

Yours faithfully,  
JOHN WINNIFRITH,  
Hallhouse Farm,  
Appledore,  
Ashford, Kent.

## ON THIS DAY

MARCH 3 1958

In traversing the Antarctic the British team led by Dr Vivian Fuchs had the support of a New Zealand one led by Sir Edmund Hillary. Awaiting Dr Fuchs's arrival was a telegram from Downing Street announcing the conferment of a nightingale upon him. The expedition's triumph was one which had been denied another great explorer, Sir Ernest Shackleton, whose imperial expedition of 1913 met disaster when his ship the *Endurance* was crushed in pack ice.

## TRANS-ANTARCTIC EXPEDITION

From Our Special Correspondent

SCOTT BASE, March 2 - Dr. Vivian Fuchs, leader of the Trans-Antarctic Expedition, and his party reached Scott Base today, completing their journey across the continent - the first to be accomplished - in 99 days. They left Shackleton base, 2,200 miles away, on November 24.

Arms linked, Dr. Fuchs and Sir Edmund Hillary stepped from the ice of Antarctica on to the snowy shore of Ross Island at 4.17pm. Dr. Fuchs and his men brought their vehicles to the final halt within sight of a memorial to another Englishman whose name will always be part of Antarctica. Above the party, on the top of Observation Hill, stands the cross to the memory of Robert Falcon Scott and his four companions. Its inscription reads: "To strive, to seek, to find, and not to yield."

When he left his last camp this morning, Dr. Fuchs had the blunt pinnacle of Castle Rock on Ross Island sharply on his horizon, more than 20 miles away. He steered for this until the jagged black shadows and gleaming white faces of an icefall on the Scott Base side of Castle Rock gave him an aiming point more directly in the line of the mark which stood at the head of the final route home: an aircraft windsock, with its pole thrust into an empty petrol drum, billowing out 10ft above the snowy ground.

**FLUTTERING FLAG**  
Churning out of this little area of ski-resort loveliness, the Sno-cats ran along the partly prepared light aircraft landing strip now built by the Americans here and there, came at last within sight of Scott Base itself. Up on the hill above the parked aircraft and the lines of base stores and the huge mound of freshly cut seal meat, Dr. Fuchs and his men saw the first of the lemming and red Scott Base buildings. And high on the hill flew the Union Jack.

All their flags fluttering, the four Sno-cats were beamed in at once by the camera-clicking meo from Scott Base and from the American base at Hut Point. Very pistols shot up coloured charges in noisy welcome. Looking almost dazed in the face of the excitement around him, Dr. Fuchs, wearing his black helmet, his white polo-necked sweater, his blue windbreaker trousers, and red-tinted soft leather footwear, climbed out of the cabin of the leading vehicle with Sir Edmund Hillary. "A piece of cake," was his comment. The American band played as the explorers mounted the hill.

Dr. Fuchs was handed a sheaf of congratulatory telegrams which had already begun to come in, and he disappeared into the radio room to send his own messages out. A few minutes later he began a news conference with the representatives here from newspapers and broadcasting services in all parts of the world.  
Dr. Fuchs and Sir Edmund Hillary arrived at Scott Base in a completely amicable relationship. They are now - as they have been all along - two men able to discuss opposing views without losing their balance or their respect for each other. The former controversy (which was not of their making) gives added point to their linking of arms when the job they set out to do was finished.

Each man had the courage of his convictions. After Sir Edmund Hillary had made his recommendation that the journey should be abandoned at the Pole, and Dr. Fuchs had declined to accept this recommendation, their partnership went ahead in all respects as before. In spite of his own doubts about being on the plateau so late in the season, and accepting the possibility that he might be caught for the winter, Sir Edmund Hillary joined Dr. Fuchs at Depot 700 to give the party the benefit of his local knowledge. Without this help the vehicles could well have been a fortnight later reaching Scott Base.

**Smooth operator**  
From Mrs Catherine Craig  
Sir, Deep snow in west Cornwall is a rare and wonderful sight, but not quite so rare and wonderful as the subsequent sight of a young man sliding effortlessly down the hill outside my house standing upright on his surf board.

Yours faithfully,  
CATHERINE CRAIG,  
Treslothan House,  
Treslothan,  
Camborne,  
Cornwall.  
February 25.

## Enter, a bear

From Mr Ivan Stringer  
Sir, How does March go out when it comes in like a polar bear?  
Yours faithfully,  
IVAN STRINGER,  
4 Langdons,  
Sherborne,  
Dorset.  
February 26.



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INTERVIEWS in London/Edinburgh/Dublin in April 1986.  
 Application form to be returned by 27 March 1986 can be obtained together with further information from:  
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FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

**US NOTEBOOK**  
**Consensus wrong on bond yields**

From Maxwell Newton New York

The prediction by 25 of the most prestigious names in American economic forecasting that the yield on 30-year US treasury bonds would rise from 9 per cent at the end of December to 9.45 per cent on June 30, 1986, and to 9.76 per cent on December 31, 1986, had only one significant dissenter — Mr Gary Schilling, a long-time bear on the US economy.

He predicted that the yield on the long bond would be 8 per cent on both dates. By last Friday, the economists' forecast — made just two months ago — lay in ruins. The 30-year bond yield had already fallen to 8 1/2 per cent.

There were several reasons for this almost unprecedented disaster in American forecasting (one in which I did not participate, having been a bull on bonds since the second quarter of 1984).

The first and most egregious error of the economists was their continuing blind belief in the workability of the "monetarist" model. They looked at the growth of M1 — 11 per cent over the last 12 months — and convinced themselves that this must produce a strong "surge of growth" in American economic activity.

They were underterred by the fact that, since 1982, the velocity of money, the keystone of monetarist forecasting, had behaved most erratically, rendering inoperable and irrelevant the monetarist model which they had all learned at college — seemingly all they had learned.

In 1985, after a huge monetary input by the Fed beginning in October, 1984, the economy turned in its lowest growth performance — 2.2 per cent — since the recession of 1982. Economic data for January indicates continuing economic weakness.

Retail sales, industrial production, durable goods orders and a record trade deficit in January combine to suggest that the economy in the first quarter of 1986 will be lucky to equal the 1.2 per cent rate of increase in the fourth quarter of 1985 — a figure which provided a further humiliating defeat for the "consensus".

Another reason for the economists' error was the failure to recognize the force of disinflation in America today. Commodity futures prices are at their lowest since early in 1978 and are 40 per cent lower than at that time in real terms.

Average hourly earnings, which rose by 7 per cent a year between 1976 and 1984, rose by only 2.3 per cent in the 12 months ended December, 1985. In real 1977 terms, average hourly earnings are about 6 per cent lower than in 1976. The Federal Reserve has cut the rate of money growth, M1, by 40 per cent since September.

Another reason for the appalling mistakes in the "consensus" was the failure to believe a tiny group of forecasters who correctly predicted a massive drop in the spot price of crude oil.

So severe has been the devastation that it is possible the American price level will fall in 1986. This, with a financial crisis in the oil states to match the crisis in the farming states.

Since February, 1985, when the devaluation of the dollar began, commodity dollar prices, measured in dollars, have fallen by 15 per cent, not what would be expected from a 30 per cent devaluation of the dollar.

Gradually, the truth of the situation — that disinflation or even deflation remains dominant — has been absorbed by the American financial markets. Since the third week of January, March T-bonds have fallen from 8 1/2 to 9 1/4, an increase of 15 per cent, which has been more or less matched in the cash bond market, where the yield on the 30-year bond is 8 1/2 per cent.

Now that the financial markets have perceived the truth of America's situation, it is likely that the yield on the long bond will continue to drop over time, reaching about 7 per cent in early 1987.

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Consolidated Trust	12 1/2%
Continental Trust	12 1/2%
Co-operative Bank	12 1/2%
C. Home & Co.	12 1/2%
Lloyds Bank	12 1/2%
Nat Westminster	12 1/2%
Royal Bank of Scotland	12 1/2%
TSB	12 1/2%
Citibank Int'l	12 1/2%

↑ Mortgage Base Rate.

**Collapse of N Sea oil price ensures neutral Budget**

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

The latest fall in oil prices, with North Sea crude dipping well below \$14 a barrel at the end of last week, has guaranteed that the forthcoming Budget will be broadly based and neutral.

The Chancellor, Mr Nigel Lawson, has rejected the argument that the oil price collapse means he should raise overall taxation to keep within his financial targets.

Treasury economists calculate that more buoyant non-oil revenues will partly offset the £3 billion to £6 billion shortfall in oil revenues in 1985-87. But they say the £3.5 billion originally estimated for tax cuts has already gone.

With the pound once more under pressure, the Chancellor has to present a Budget acceptable to the financial markets. This means adhering to his existing target of £7.5 billion for public sector borrowing in the next financial year.

Mr Lawson could still announce income tax cuts in a neutral Budget by putting up

indirect taxes, notably excise duties on petrol and cigarettes. But with real incomes and consumer spending set to grow strongly, and with the prospect of a sizeable cut in the basic rate of income tax having disappeared with the oil price fall, he is likely to leave well alone.

The City has pushed hard for the abolition of stamp duty on share purchases, in advance of the Stock Exchange big bang move to negotiated commissions in October. Instead of abolition, the Chancellor is more likely to opt for a halving of the rate from 1 to 0.5 per cent which, with higher turnover, could cost the Exchequer less than £100 million.

A pulling together of the various government job measures, to make up an unemployment package to be announced on Budget day, can be expected. This may include an extension of the present Job Start scheme, operating in nine pilot areas since the



Nigel Lawson rejects raising taxes overall

beginning of the year. Job Start provides counselling and job offers on state schemes for the long-term unemployed as well as £20 a week for those who take on jobs for less than £80 a week.

One difficulty with a big extension of the scheme favoured by Lord Young, the Secretary of State for Employment, is that it is too early to assess its success.

The Government will also announce a big publicity package designed to increase public awareness of various job measures. One reason for the rise to adult unemployment in the past three months has been that the take-up of vacancies on the expanded Community Programme has been slow.

The Chancellor is expected to argue in his Budget speech that the benefits of lower oil prices on growth and inflation, and the improved world economic outlook, more than outweigh the short-term loss of tax cuts. In addition, he is likely to hold out the prospect of cheaper money when oil and the foreign exchanges settle.

Independent forecasters, including the Institute for Fiscal Studies and several City economists, have calculated that although the oil price drop has hit this year's tax cut hopes, the prospects for big reductions next year are good. From a political point of view, tax cuts in March 1987 will appeal to the majority of the Cabinet.

**Builders seek curb on tax dodgers**

By Edward Townsend Industrial Correspondent

Proposals to combat the growth of Britain's black economy, said today to be responsible for a big increase in shoddy building and to threaten the existence of bona fide builders, have been put forward by the Building Employers' Confederation.

In a report sent to Mr Nigel Lawson and Mr John Patten, Minister for Housing, Urban Affairs and Construction, the confederation urges the Government to introduce a low threshold of £10,000 for value added tax on building work.

Meanwhile, say the builders, a more vigorous and effective enforcement of the existing VAT registration level of £19,500, should be made to recoup massive losses through non-payment by "cowboy" builders.

The confederation says that the dodging of VAT has seriously undermined the ability of honest builders to offer job and training opportunities.

"Encouragement of the black economy will eventually result in the major part of the domestic market being served by semi-skilled or self-trained amateurs — an appalling prospect for the public and for the maintenance of proper standards in the industry."

The report highlights an inland Revenue estimate that the overall size of the black economy is 7.5 per cent of gross domestic product, representing about £25 billion of undeclared income or £4 billion in lost revenue. This, say the builders, would amount to 3p off the basic rate of income tax.

But Mr Jack Newby, director-general of the confederation, said that the overall figures masked a much greater problem.

"We are concerned that the Government has not so far taken a far more critical stance on this position. It sometimes seems to be regarded as an acceptable way of easing some of the worst effects of unemployment when, in fact, it is destroying jobs and training opportunities."

Recent estimates from producers of building materials are that black economy "cowboys" buy about £1.25 billion of VAT-paid materials while the labour element of the subsequent work amounts to £2.25 billion.

**Small firms 'may have kept jobless down by a quarter'**

By Derek Harris, Industrial Editor

Britain's unemployment figures might have been a quarter higher but for the creation of jobs by small firms, according to the latest quarterly survey by the Small Business Research Trust.

Calculations suggest that small businesses have provided between 800,000 and 1.1 million jobs since 1980, including self-employment.

In the past year, 12 per cent of businesses surveyed had expanded their workforces and 5 per cent expected increases in this quarter. The survey strikes a balance between businesses which are

positive on new job creation and those which are not. The biggest increases last year were in financial services, where a quarter of the businesses added to their workforces, and manufacturing where 21 per cent did. Another 12 per cent in financial services were expecting in the first quarter to add staff.

The black spot was the transportation sector where 14 per cent expected to shed staff in the current quarter.

The most successful job creators appear to be businesses employing between 15 and 49 people. Some 23 per cent

had taken on new staff, with a further 11 per cent expecting increases this quarter.

Optimism about employment mirrors that on increased sales, although at 26.2 per cent, fewer expected sales improvements in the current quarter compared with the last survey.

There is another cautionary note in the survey which reports that small businesses continue to be worried about high interest rates — a quarter complained about them — with the second greatest cause for concern being the total tax burden.

**Brock turns down World Bank job**

From Bailey Morris, Washington

Mr William Brock, the US Labour Secretary, has decided not to accept the job as head of the World Bank when the term of Mr A W Tom Clausen expires in June.

His decision, taken largely for personal reasons, puts renewed pressure on the Reagan Administration to find a candidate acceptable to Europe and Japan to assume the bank presidency.

Mr Brock is the third highest-level official to reject the US Administration's overtures. Earlier, Mr Paul Volcker, chairman of the US Federal Reserve Board, and Mr John Whitehead, Under-Secretary of State, expressed lack of interest in the job.

Mr Brock's decision appears to have revived the candidacy of Mr William Middendorf, US ambassador to the EEC, who has continued a relentless campaign for the job. In addition, Mr William Simon, a former US Treasury Secretary



William Brock: third top US official to refuse post

street who is a high-level Wall Street official, is also under consideration.

Mr Middendorf, who is supported by Mr Donald Regan, the White House Chief of Staff, earlier mounted a vigorous campaign for the job but his candidacy drew opposition from Europe and Japan. Now, he is being supported by a group of US Senators

**\$31bn Brazil debt pact**

New York (Reuter) — Brazil and its leading commercial bank creditors have agreed on a \$31 billion (£21.3 billion) financial package that includes a substantial reduction in interest rates on part of the country's \$103 billion debt. Citibank said yesterday.

The agreement calls for the interest rate on \$16.5 billion of debt falling due in 1985 and 1986 to be lowered to 1 1/2 per cent over the London Euro-dollar rate from an average of about 2 per cent, a cut that will save Brazil about \$150 million. Brazil's 700 creditor banks worldwide are also being asked to keep in place \$15.5 billion in trade and interbank credit lines for one year.

The proposed terms will be sent out to all the banks in the next few days, and contracts should be ready for signing by early June, Citibank said.

Brazil, the developing world's largest debtor, chalked up trade surpluses of \$13.1 billion in 1984 and \$12.45 billion in 1985. It has also built up its foreign reserves to about \$9 billion after ending 1983 in the red.

Under the accord, which was reached late on Saturday after three weeks of intensive talks, the repayment of \$6 billion of debt that matured last year will be stretched over seven years, with payments beginning in 1991 and running until March 15, 1993.

**'Little bang' heralds first phase of City revolution**

By Richard Thomson, Banking Correspondent

The stock market opens this morning with the first stage of the City revolution now in progress. The so-called "little bang" began over the weekend when non-member institutions became free to go above the 29.9 per cent limit so far imposed on the ownership of Stock Exchange members.

Union Bank of Switzerland, which is raising its stake in the brokerage firm of Phillips & Drew, and Dow Scandia, which is taking full control of another broker, Savoury Mitre, are so far the only two outside institutions to take advantage of the new rules.

Other non-member institutions which are applying for membership without owning an existing member firm may now be given permission to trade on the Exchange. The exchange's membership council is considering a handful of applications next week and several more applications the week after that.

Nomura Ltd, which will become a broker, and Merrill Lynch, which is launching a broking and jobbing operation, will be considered by the committee tomorrow. Despite the easing of membership rules, however, the

system of dual capacity in the market will remain until the big bang in October.

This first stage was designed to reduce the disruption in the market which might have been caused by too many changes at once. It also allows new firms to practise at trading in the exchange and enables parent companies to inject more capital into them.

Phillips & Drew has also announced that it has taken 100 per cent control of Moulds & Co, the gilt-edged jobber, to form Phillips & Drew Moulds with a capitalization of £25 million.

**Rodime comes to London**

By Clare Dobie

Trading in the shares of Rodime, a computer component manufacturer, starts today on the London Stock Exchange. The shares are expected to open at £8.45.

Rodime, which has factories in Glenrothes, Fifeshire, and Boca Raton, Florida, is coming to the stock market via an introduction.

London quotation will be in addition to an existing listing in America, where its shares have been traded over the counter for nearly four years. On Friday the share price was \$12.25 (£8.45).

The company makes Winchester disc drives for small business, personal and portable computers. It is developing disc drives for minicomputers and mainframes.

Sales have quadrupled in the last two years from £19.0 million to £75.9 million in the year to September 30 1985. But like other companies in the industry, Rodime has suffered from competition on price and the rising costs of developing new products. Profits have nevertheless risen from £5.1 million two years ago to £14.8 million last year. There is no forecast for this year.

The company has cash of £24.0 million, raised in share issues in America in 1983 and 1984. The money is earmarked for further product development.

**Reporting of fraud to police 'unnecessary'**

Requiring auditors to report any fraud or financial irregularity they discover in their client companies to the police or other third party would constitute unnecessary interference by the state in business affairs, according to a survey of senior businessmen.

Two out of three directors and top executives surveyed by the Chartered Association of Certified Accountants thought that auditors should be required to report fraud only to their client companies who would then undertake any necessary action on their own account.

Opposition to the idea of auditors reporting irregularities to the police was partially reduced on the suggestion that this should be done after the client had been informed, but even this was acceptable to only 32 per cent.

Many businessmen thought that imposing a duty to report to a third party such as the police would destroy trust between auditor and client

**Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet**

**A painful pregnancy for the Baker plan**

Whatever happened to the Baker plan? The US Treasury Secretary's colleagues-in-arms, the finance ministers of the other large industrial countries, have been asking him since the turn of the year.

Latin American governments, meeting in Uruguay over the weekend, are again threatening the kind of alternatives the Baker initiative was designed to pre-empt. Mexico, nearest and dearest to the heart of America, is providing a painful test of American strategy. A deadline is approaching fast: the April meetings of the committees of finance ministers from "North" and "South" who run the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank.

The Baker plan called for cooperative action by the international financial institutions and the commercial banks to provide "new money" for a shortlist of 15 debtor nations which were unlikely to be able to go unaided to market. The code words of debtspeak changed. There was less talk of "adjustment" (which means cutting imports) in developing countries; more of "growth" (which means expanding production and exports). The world was to be hitched out of debt by its braces, not strapped into solvency by belt-tightening. The IMF, purveyors to the world economy of nice tough belts, was in eclipse; the World Bank, suppliers of hard-wearing braces, was to lead the new approach.

Banking self-interest, naturally, was at the heart of the change. The first element was a fear among bankers that the prevailing conditions of slow growth and high interest rates locked them into the permanent provision of large loans to Third-World governments. Virtually all amortization payments due from Latin America last year were rescheduled.

The second element was an unease among bankers that belt-tightening was actually increasing the risk of debt repudiation. John Williamson's "calculus of repudiation" in the just-published *Oxford Review of Economic Policy* demonstrates that governments are most tempted not when their reserves have run out but, on the contrary, after a period of deflation has built reserves up to the point at which they will pay for a few months' essential imports, so that governments can live without a drip-feed of trade credits. By last year, the world's seven biggest debtors had built up reserves with the aid of a \$40 billion trade surplus.

Skilfully presented, the Baker plan purported to offer "new money" in roughly equal proportions from both commercial banks and the international financial institutions. It also appeared to offer debtor governments "softer", longer-term help. Only as the plan left the American drawing board did its true character, and consequent difficulties, become apparent.

More of the genuine "new money" would in fact come from official

sources, notably the World Bank; and the first significant feature of the Baker plan is that the Americans plainly accepted this. But, secondly, it introduced a new tension into World Bank finance. This was traditionally if not exclusively for specific projects in developing countries; but is under the Baker plan to be broadened into loans made conditional on changes in management of debt-ridden economies as a whole.

What's more, the World Bank would carry the clout of the commercial banks, whose loans would follow World Bank agreements: with this clout would come the obligation on the World Bank not to pull its punches.

To show this new approach could work to the satisfaction of all three parties — commercial banks, international institutions and governments — something recognizable as a "Baker loan" had to be in place or in prospect before the April meetings of the IMF and the World Bank. In the meantime, however, the earth moved; and with it the fortunes of the Baker

plan. The falling oil price hurt Indonesia, Venezuela and Nigeria; helped Brazil; and left Argentina's prospects little changed. Most important of all, it thrust Mexico's tentative rescheduling plans into chaos.

The most critical case for treatment is therefore a country suffering not merely from excessive borrowings yielding poor returns, but also from the need to adjust to a sudden fall in the price of an important export commodity. According to the Mexican finance minister, the fall in oil prices will lose Mexico \$6 billion of expected export earnings in 1986.

There are hopeful signs. Falling oil prices, on balance, will stimulate world growth. The clearest winner — Brazil — is succeeding in renegotiating its commercial bank debt at quite markedly easier interest rates, while taking advantage of cheaper energy to reinforce its attack on inflation. Even in Mexico, falling oil prices do not excuse all economic failure.

Whatever deal is patched together for Mexico will be a compromise between a new-style "Baker loan" or an old-style first-aid job. It will thereby illustrate one of the fundamental difficulties in the plan. This sets targets for an increase in lending, while at the same time arguing that loans should not be granted except on condition that governments introduce "structural" reforms. Juggling with these conflicting objectives will not be easy; and it is being made more difficult by the Americans' seeming inability to agree on a candidate for the presidency of the World Bank of sufficient calibre. Even at its conception, the plan depended heavily on presentation; a live birth now depends on the appointment of a midwife of international reputation.

Sarah Hogg  
Economics Editor

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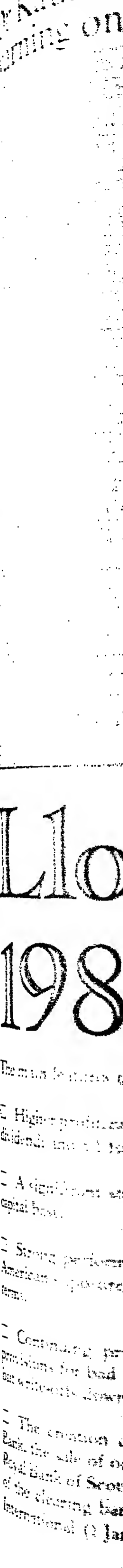
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**GILT-EDGED**

## Dr Kaufman's health warning on US bonds

New York, Friday, February 28, 8.59 am. Semi-shadow in the dealing room and the desks glow green from the consoles. The bond market opens in one minute; the atmosphere is tense. Sixty traders sit waiting for the watching the clock-like minutes about to go in.

On Thursday, the market moved as if shoved by a giant hand, and the commuter trains back to Connecticut were full of carousing bond dealers. Lust for bonds, whispers a trader; this market is devouring its young. In London, the long bond future is already one point ahead.

One minute past nine — pandemonium. The shorts are ahead by 1/4 point. The futures contract is up by 229 basis points.

"The two are hit, the two are hit," screams a trader. The selling starts. Back comes the market. The long bond, faithful bellwether of the flock, swings through about 200 points in an hour as \$80 billion starts to hit the market with ferocity and ill-directed intensity.

Lunch here is taken on a tray in front of the screen. Ketchup, not Scotch, prevails. None complain, as they join in what, by common consent, seems like the greatest bond bull market of all time.

But over at New York Plaza, high above the East River in a bright, sun-filled study, a slight, almost frail figure is preparing to light a fire beneath the entire market. Dr Henry Kaufman of Salomon Brothers is starting to raise, some fairly fundamental questions about the yield base in the market.

"The markets," says Dr Kaufman firmly, "are going to have to demonstrate at some point in time that they are viable or can be stable in the face of economic expansion. They have not yet been tested on that."

Long yields of about 8.3 per cent look reasonable, according to Dr Kaufman. These have been achieved against a background of very favourable factors. Since mid-1984, he estimates that the US has enjoyed a sub-normal path of economic growth. Inflationary fears have been dampened by lower oil prices. The Federal Reserve has been exceedingly accommodative.

And market are bullish, Dr Kaufman goes on. In this setting, even the bearish elements are transmitted.

But inflation, he warns, is bottoming out. Some time in the second half of this year, a weaker dollar should start impacting on the US price structure. Oil price trends, too, are very hard to track. Will another sharp crack in prices, for example, induce fears of a countervailing bounce back?

Oil price uncertainty is paralleled by dollar fears. So far, notes Dr Kaufman, the decline in the dollar has been orderly. Hence, there has been no shift in the pattern of international investment away from the US.

"I don't believe the Japanese are going to stop buying American securities. The uncertainty is whether other foreign buyers of US securities will pull away in favour of investment in other economies," he suggests.

Germany and Japan should benefit far more than the US from falling oil prices. The value of their currency is up, and oil is priced in dollars. Their inflation rates shortly could be close to zero, just as US inflation begins to rise. Not by much, Dr Kaufman says, but by enough to tilt the balance of emphasis.

Market sentiment is also threatened by a twin attack, on both the supply and demand sides of the US credit picture.

"I think that American monetary policy will remain expansionary for virtually all of this year, says Dr Kaufman. "The Fed will not change policy. It has been very expansionary, and very accommodating. The infusion of bank reserves has been very, very large."

America is heading for a good year. Perhaps 1987 could be even better. But later in the year, this means that some of the money numbers will be less than attractive to the market. Credit demand by US corporates ought to be exuberant.

"In the last 1 1/2 years, with subnormal economic growth, business community demand for credit has been moderate. The rise in inventories has decelerated. Last year, in the fourth quarter, it was a minus

figure. But this on-going pressing down of US business inventories cannot be pressed down much further with improvement in the pace of economic expansion."

Dr Kaufman's analysis may or may not be correct; time will tell. But there exists a visible correlation between his well-laid hints that the US markets may be approaching a turning point and the current composition of US yields. A Kaufman prediction would stand a reasonable chance of self-fulfillment because of the volatility now built into the US yield curve.

A fortnight ago, the spread between two-year notes and 30-year bonds was broadly 90 points. Mid-week last week, it was nearer 70 points. Following the market's huge surge, it was closer to 55 points. The flattening of the US yield curve means that extension premiums have well-nigh disappeared.

But if the market is now to make further progress, and the push continues to come from the long end, then the yield curve will start to invert fairly shortly. This would be a silly curve, since, pro forma, it would define US monetary policy as tight, even though the Fed would resist the definition, and the market does not expect it.

Easier short-term rates? Dollar weakness seems to rule, this out, and central banking activity round the world last week offered no change on the official hard-line attitude.

The Bundesbank was particularly intransigent.

Yield curves, however, are moving. Heracleitean things, especially in the highly charged New York atmosphere. And if the market has nowhere to go on the bull track, then it must be an even money bet that the bears will move in. The long end has plenty of scope for an upward flip, after the toboggan ride of the last few weeks. Yields now look overbought.

The message for the gits market from Dr Kaufman's comments is clear. Do not be surprised, chagrined or even just disappointed, if markets come back. *Quid enim salvis infamia nummis?* — take the money and run?

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Christopher Dunn  
Orion/Royal Bank

## UK-Saudi building venture in liquidation

By Teresa Poole

Laing Wimpey Alireza — the Saudi Arabian joint venture company owned by the British construction companies, John Laing and George Wimpey, and a Saudi partner — has been put into liquidation after non-payment of more than £16 million for work on major projects.

The move follows the sudden withdrawal by Laing and Wimpey of all expatriate staff from Saudi Arabia in November and the subsequent failure of their efforts to resolve the company's financial position.

Before the decision to pull out the two British companies had funded the company's shortfall without any contribution from their local partner, the Alireza family. A Saudi lawyer, Dr Abdullah Al-Munifi, has been appointed liquidator, and Laing and Wimpey are to submit a claim for these sums by the March 10 deadline.

It is understood that, at the time of the withdrawal, all construction work had been completed, but substantial sums were owed to LWA.

They included 25 million riyals (£4.6 million) from the Ministry of Health in relation to Jubail Hospital; 33 million riyals (£6.1 million) from Arabian Inns and Catering for the Holiday Inn, Jeddah; 30 million riyals (£5.5 million) from the Ministry of Health for the hospitals at Al-Midhlab and Al-Bukayriyah; and certified sums outstanding on other contracts for several years.

LWA is equally owned by the three partners.

Mr Angus Shure, of Fielding Newton-Smith, the stockbroker, estimated write-offs at up to £10 million by each company to cover unpaid sums and the cost of withdrawing from Saudi Arabia.

Under Saudi law the liquidator must provide a statement of affairs within three months. Dr al-Munifi has asked for the assistance of former LWA staff and has assured their safe entry and exit from the Kingdom.

The Health Ministry projects director, Mr Mohammed al-Guwaihes, said last month that Saudi Arabia would call a performance bond of more than 20 million riyals (£3.7 million) for failing to properly complete the three hospital contracts.

The Isle of Man Parliament is to keep British Telecom as its public telecommunications provider.

If BT had lost the competition to Cable & Wireless for these 25,000 telephone subscribers, the direct financial consequence would have been minuscule. In 1984/85, the island bought BT just £5.4 million in revenue and £1.4 million in profits, just under 0.1 per cent of its total turnover.

So why all the fuss? And why did BT agree to pay £7.5 million to the Manx Government and £250,000 each year for the next 20 to have its licence renewed?

The new privatized BT is keen to prove itself commercially and wants to form and acquire new businesses, especially overseas. To have lost the Isle of Man would not only have been a blow to its pride but may have damaged its chances to get contracts elsewhere, like Sri Lanka, where again it is tendering against Cable & Wireless.

But the price to pay for the island could be a lot more than the £7.5 million plus £250,000 yearly for the next 20 years. BT is to form a new company, Manx Telecom, and the Manx Government may take a stake in it.

The profit and loss account of Manx Telecom will make interesting reading, especially for BT watchdog Ofotel, because it will be BT's first breakout business. Indeed, it could help Ofotel to review and perhaps amend BT's whole pricing structure in Britain.

Manx subscribers may also be pleasantly surprised as BT has agreed to cut its charges to them by about 15 per cent when the new licence becomes effective in January, 1987.

The Isle of Man, being a fairly wealthy place, is not exactly representative of Britain but we must place it alongside Kingston-upon-Hull, which is the other little bit of Britain where telephone charges could be substantially cut.

Hull Corporation is the only independent local telephone service provider in the country. Its long-distance calls go via BT and currently BT takes all the revenue from those calls, but still, Hull made a profit of £4.1 million on local revenues of £17.4 million from its 150,000 subscribers last year.

If negotiations to share the long-distance revenue more equally with BT are successful, Hull could also be cutting charges next year. Its local service (rental of telephone and local calls) is already cheaper than BT's.

Even if Ofotel did not exist, these price cuts would command some public attention. Public pressure has already forced BT to cut telephone charges in some of the Scottish islands, such as Orkney and the Hebrides. Why should BT give in to such pressure when it has a monopoly? The simple answer is, it no longer has a monopoly and thus the big guns are trained on a rather ponderous target.

Mercury Communications, now wholly owned by Cable &

Wireless, has a licence to compete with BT and is already providing private telephone circuits, mainly to large companies for their internal networks. By the early summer, it will have some of its own all-digital telephone exchanges and could be offering a lower priced service to one third of Britain's telephone users next year. But Mercury will be almost wholly a long-distance telecom supplier with only limited local networks — it would be too expensive to re-lay all its cables even though it is doing so in areas like the City of London.

So Mercury will be looking for cost-effective ways to access other local networks. The biggest of these will be BT itself. Last October, Ofotel granted Mercury the right of access to BT's network at rates equivalent to a 60 per cent discount on BT's public tariffs. In time, this will allow Mercury to win new subscribers from BT because anyone with a telephone will be able to use Mercury by dialling a code. Indeed, Mercury will soon start selling its own telephones which will dial the extra digits automatically.

We expect that by 1988, Mercury will be serving one million of BT's, by then, 22.5 million subscribers from Exeter to Aberdeen. By 1990, most business and many domestic customers will be using Mercury for at least some long-distance calls because they will be cheaper than BT by 10 to 30 per cent.

Mercury's revenues could near £1 billion by 1990 with a

profit contribution to Cable & Wireless in the £100 million to £200 million range.

The combination of direct loss of revenue and lower prices due to competition could deprive BT of something like £1.5 billion of revenue by the end of this decade.

Of course, the market for telecommunications will continue to grow from just over £4 billion in 1985 to perhaps £6.5 billion by 1990, but BT will find it difficult to show any growth at all in telephone call revenue during the period of Mercury's fastest growth, probably 1988 or 1989. This will be a completely new situation for BT, whereas privatizing the company gave it the short-term opportunity to exploit a monopoly, the longer-term process of competition will make life much more difficult. BT could easily be reporting profit reductions before the decade is out.

The speed with which all this could come about depends on market dynamics and the growth of public awareness. Most BT subscribers have no idea what Mercury offers. But once the service begins to catch on, things could happen quickly. A really neat way to get the ball rolling would have been to win the Isle of Man franchise.

No doubt BT will go to extraordinary lengths to defend Hull, too.

Bill Dixon  
The author is telecommunications analyst at the broker Scott, Gaff, Layton

**ORDINARY SHARES**

## BT pays a high price for Isle of Man contract

holders Far East Investments, TI Group, James Wilkes.

FRIDAY — Interims: Consolidated Plantations Berhad. Finals: Alliance Trust, Anglo-Union Assurance Co, General Accident Fire and Life Assurance, Heywood Williams Group, Tavener Rutledge.

THURSDAY — Interims: Barclays Bank (2nd), Johnson Matthey, Kleinwort Benson Eurobond Fund, Mitchell Cotts, Shires Investment. Finals: Biomechanics, Cadbury Schweppes, Corsh, Life Indman, Inngem, Stock-

BOARD MEETINGS

TODAY — Interims: Industrial Finance and Investment Corporation, Michael Peters Group, Ramar Textiles. Finals: T F and J Beaine Holdings, British Vita, Mitrovic.

TOMORROW — Interims: Telematrix, Final: Blagden Industries, BSR International, Fisons, The Fleming Mercantile Investment Trust, Johnstone's Paints, National Westminster Bank. The Nineteen Twenty-Eight Investment Trust, Provident Financial Group, Stat-Plus Group.

WEDNESDAY — Interims:

Kleinwort Benson  
With effect from 1st March 1986 the Kleinwort, Benson Limited mortgage rate will be 13.5% per annum, and the personal loan base rate will be 12.5% per annum.

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# Lloyds Bank 1985 Results

The main features of 1985 were:

- Higher profit, earnings per share and dividend; and a 1 for 2 scrip issue.
- A significant strengthening of our capital base.
- Strong performance in UK; Latin American exposure reduced in sterling terms.
- Continuing prudent approach to provisions for bad and doubtful debts, but write-offs down.
- The creation of Lloyds Merchant Bank, the sale of our investment in the Royal Bank of Scotland, and the merger of the clearing bank and Lloyds Bank International (1 January 1986).

"1985 was a year in which we significantly strengthened our capital base and reduced our relative exposure to international debt problems. The excellent results allow us to increase the dividend and we propose a further 1 for 2 scrip issue. We shall continue to push forward in 1986."

Sir Jeremy Morse, Chairman of Lloyds Bank Plc

LLOYDS BANK PLC  
FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 1985

	1985	1984	Increase
Profit Before Tax	£561m	£468m	20%
Profit After Tax	£331m	£237m	40%
Post-Tax Return on Average Total Assets	0.77%	0.55%	
Post-Tax Return on Average Equity	15.1%	12.1%	
Earnings Per Share	93p	65p	43%
Dividends Per Share	21.0p	17.7p	19%
Dividend Cover	4.4 times	3.7 times	

### Dividend

The Directors of Lloyds Bank Plc have declared a final dividend for the year ended 31 December 1985 of 13.5p per share (1984: 11.4p adjusted for the one for two capitalisation issue in 1985), making a total for the year of 21.0p per share (1984: 17.7p). With the related tax credit this is equivalent to 30.0p per share (1984: 25.2p). The final dividend is payable on 4 April 1986 to shareholders registered on 12 March 1986.

### Proposed one for two scrip issue

The Directors will recommend to shareholders at the Annual General Meeting the issue of one new fully paid ordinary £1 share for every two shares held. Subject to shareholders' approval, the new shares will be issued to holders on the register on 30 May 1986.

### Further information

Further details of Lloyds Bank's 1985 results may be obtained from: Corporate Communications Division, Princess House, 152/156 Upper Thames Street, London EC4R 3UJ. Telephone: 01-929 2777.



A THOROUGHBRED AMONGST BANKS.

Lloyds Bank Plc, 71 Lombard Street, London EC3P 3BS

# Study materials publisher seeks £1.2m for expansion

The spring season in Unlisted Securities Market new issues gets under way this week with the arrival of BPP, a specialist publisher.

Named after its founding directors, Briery, Price and Prior, the company was formed 10 years ago to provide tuition for accountancy examinations.

The company's text and related tuition material led the company into publishing from the outset, and the demand for publications from external students not connected with the tuition courses led to rapid expansion of this side of the business.

The range of publication has been expanded significantly to cover materials for other financial examinations so that the turnover from this side of the business contributes 60 per cent of sales. The tuition courses still contribute to overall growth.

This type of publishing offers scope for impressive returns as the study materials have to be updated regularly to keep abreast of tax and legal changes. This kills any market for second-hand texts and ensures regular reprinting.

The number of students training in accountancy continues to grow, and there is still a much larger market to be developed in related areas of business and in educational publishing where the same formula can be applied.

The company is raising about £1.2 million to provide additional working capital. Profits before tax for 1985 were £405,000 with earnings per share 12.25p. It is expected that the historic price-earnings ratio will be about 13.

The broker to the issue is Grieveeson Grant, and dealings are expected to begin next week.

Interim figures are due today from Michael Peters, the design consultancy. This company, originally floated in November, 1983, has impressed the market with its elegant and stylish work.

Since flotation Peters has begun to broaden the base of its business into areas in need of a strong design base. The fastest growing subsidiary is its retail division, which recently announced a contract to design motorway service stations for BP and is now working closely with other high street retailers.

Peters, in profit terms, is in

a consolidation phase, and this year is likely to reflect the costs of investing in people and buildings, slowing the impressive rate of growth seen in the last two years. The market is looking for an increase in profits of about 25 per cent.

The do-it-yourself sector was causing a flurry late last week. Pessimistic noises about the competitive conditions in this area of retailing dampened enthusiasm for two recent USM issues, Hampden Home Care and Wickes.

The latter company was offered for sale in January, but 50 per cent was left in the hands of the underwriters. Despite the attempt by the management to demonstrate its careful market positioning and aggressive promotion and pricing policies, the City felt unclear whether this was a builders' merchant or a retailer.

Bargain hunters, however, have been disappointed as the company's broker supported the issue and kept the shares at a small premium to the issue price.

Overhauling the sector is Marley's sale of its subsidiary,

But it was Friday's announcement from Home Charm that it had received a bid approach that brought speculators out, leaving Hampden Home Care 6p better at 68p.

In a week when nuclear waste was topical, Stainless Metallcraft, a manufacturer of high quality stainless aluminium and exotic metals in the nuclear, medical and aerospace industries, announced the small acquisition of the pipework division of the Supaflo Group for about asset value.

Stainless has followed a favourite USM formula in recent months — the shares have moved from 80p to 153p since December. The group's efforts to upgrade its quality control in the past two years leaves it strongly placed to tender for work to the nuclear, oil and bio-processing industries. The acquisition will complement the group's activities well, and Grieveeson Grant, the company's broker, is looking for pre-tax profits of £950,000 this year. Much of this is discounted in the share price.

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# Guidelines unsafe and misleading

Regina v Hancock and Sherrin Lord Scarman, Lord Keith of Kinkaid, Lord Roskill, Lord Brightman and Lord Griffiths. [Speeches sold February 27]

In a murder case where it was necessary to direct a jury on the issue of intent by reference to the likelihood of death or serious injury resulting from the act done might be critically important, depending on the degree of probability.

Failure to explain the relevance of probability might therefore mislead a jury into thinking that it was of little or no importance and to concentrate exclusively on the causal link between the act and its consequence.

The House of Lords so held, giving reasons for dismissing an appeal by the Crown from a conviction for the murder of a woman in October, 1984. (The Times November 1, 1985; [1985] 3 WLR 1014) of the Court of Appeal (Lord Lane, Lord Chief Justice, Mr Justice Goff and Mr Justice Rose) allowing appeals by the defendants, Reginaid Dean Hancock and Russell Shankland who were convicted of murder on May 16, 1985 at Cardiff Crown Court before Mr Justice Mann and a jury.

Mr Martin Thomas, QC and Mr Philip Rees for the Crown; Mr Gareth Williams, QC and Mr Gareth Williams, QC for Mr Hancock; Mr John Prosser QC and Lord Elystan-Morgan for Mr Shankland.

LORD SCARMAN said that the appeal was brought to secure guidance on the law given by the House of Lords in Reginaid Dean Hancock v R. (1985) AC 905 as to the direction appropriate to be given to the jury on the issue of intent by reference to the likelihood of death or serious injury resulting from the act done in that case, at p. 929.

"In rare cases in which it is necessary to direct a jury by reference to the likelihood of death or serious injury...

necessary to direct a jury by reference to the likelihood of death or serious injury...

First, was death or really serious injury a natural consequence of the defendant's voluntary act? Secondly, did the defendant foresee that his act would result in death or serious injury as a natural consequence of his act? The jury should then be told that if they answer 'yes' to both questions it is a proper inference for them to draw that he intended that consequence."

The trial judge based his direction to the jury on that guidance and the two defendants were convicted of murder. The Court of Appeal quashed the convictions on the ground that the judge's guidance may well have misled the jury. The Court of Appeal refused leave to appeal but certified the following point of law:

"Do the questions to be considered by a jury set out in the speech of Lord Bridge of Halcote in Reginaid Dean Hancock v R. (1985) AC 905, 929 as a model direction require amplification?"

In the dark hours of the early morning of November 30, 1984 Mr David Wilkie was driving his taxi along the Heads of the Valley Road, South Wales. As he approached the bridge over the Rhymney River he saw the arrival of the convoy escorting the miner to work.

Mr Wilkie's passenger was a miner going to work. The defendants were miners on strike and to intention to kill or do serious bodily harm to Wilkie's passenger going to work.

That morning they had collected the concrete lumps from nearby, had brought them to the bridge and had placed them on the road in the path of the arrival of the convoy escorting the miner to work.

The case for the prosecution was that the two concrete ob-

jects were either thrown from the bridge or pushed over the parapet in the path of the taxi at a time when the taxi could not avoid being struck."

As the trial judge told the jury, the prosecution case could be compressed into one question: "What else could a person who pushed or threw such objects have intended, but to cause really serious bodily harm to the occupants of the car?"

The defence case was that they intended to block the road, to stop the miner going to work, but not to kill or do serious bodily harm to anybody. The defendants were prepared to plead guilty to manslaughter but the Crown decided to pursue the charge of murder.

The issue was ultimately one of intention. Did they (or either of them) intend to kill or to cause anyone serious bodily harm? The judge directed the jury as to the state of mind required by law to be proved to their satisfaction before they could return a verdict of murder.

The judge's direction as to the intention required by law was impeccable. When he came to help them on the facts, he offered guidance along the Moloney lines and stated that they might find it helpful to ask: "Was death or serious injury a natural consequence of what was done? Did a defendant foresee that his act would result in death or serious injury as a natural consequence of his act?"

The jury were out for five hours and returned asking for further directions. Their problem was how to relate the guidance to the facts and they could not solve it by answering the two questions.

The Court of Appeal found itself driven to the conclusion that the use by the judge of the Moloney guidelines might have misled the jury. The question for the House therefore was whether those guidelines were sound.

Lord Bridge omitted any reference to the likelihood of death or serious injury because he included "probability" in the meaning which he attributed to "natural".

I was very doubtful whether a jury without further explanation would think that "probable" added nothing to "natural". Probability of a consequence was a factor of sufficient importance to be drawn specifically to the jury's attention and to be explained.

The Moloney guidelines as they stood were unsafe and misleading. They also required an explanation that the greater the probability of a consequence the more likely it was that the defendant was forewarned and that if it was forewarned the greater the probability was that it was also intended. Juries also required to be reminded that the decision was theirs to be reached upon a consideration of all the evidence.

Guidelines of general application, albeit within a limited class of cases, were neither wise nor desirable. It was therefore not advisable to use the guidelines formulated by the Lord Chief Justice in the present case.

The laying down of guidelines by the Court of Appeal should be done sparingly and limited to cases of real difficulty. If it was done, the guidelines should avoid generalization so far as was possible and encourage the jury to exercise their common sense in reaching what was their decision on the facts.

Guidelines were not rules of law. Judges should not think that they must, in order to help the jury, try to direct and help the jury upon the particular facts of the case.

Lord Keith, Lord Roskill, Lord Brightman and Lord Griffiths agreed.

Director of Public Prosecutions, Cartwrights, Cardiff; Mr Gareth J. Davies, Bargoed.

## UNLISTED SECURITIES

Company	Price	Change	Gross	Div	P/E	Company	Price	Change	Gross	Div	P/E
1200004 B M GP	12	+1	0.8	4.0	11.8	18 9m	24	+2	3.4	2.7	27
1200005 B M GP	12	+1	0.8	4.0	11.8	19 9m	24	+2	3.4	2.7	27
2400000 Abertawe	18	+1	2.0	4.2	22	20 9m	24	+2	3.4	2.7	27
2400001 Abertawe	18	+1	2.0	4.2	22	21 9m	24	+2	3.4	2.7	27
2400002 Abertawe	18	+1	2.0	4.2	22	22 9m	24	+2	3.4	2.7	27
130 9m	24	+2	3.4	2.7	27	23 9m	24	+2	3.4	2.7	27
2400003 Abertawe	18	+1	2.0	4.2	22	24 9m	24	+2	3.4	2.7	27
2400004 Abertawe	18	+1	2.0	4.2	22	25 9m	24	+2	3.4	2.7	27
2400005 Abertawe	18	+1	2.0	4.2	22	26 9m	24	+2	3.4	2.7	27
2400006 Abertawe	18	+1	2.0	4.2	22	27 9m	24	+2	3.4	2.7	27
2400007 Abertawe	18	+1	2.0	4.2	22	28 9m	24	+2	3.4	2.7	27
2400008 Abertawe	18	+1	2.0	4.2	22	29 9m	24	+2	3.4	2.7	27
2400009 Abertawe	18	+1	2.0	4.2	22	30 9m	24	+2	3.4	2.7	27
2400010 Abertawe	18	+1	2.0	4.2	22	31 9m	24	+2	3.4	2.7	27
2400011 Abertawe	18	+1	2.0	4.2	22	32 9m	24	+2	3.4	2.7	27
2400012 Abertawe	18	+1	2.0	4.2	22	33 9m	24	+2	3.4	2.7	27
2400013 Abertawe	18	+1	2.0	4.2	22	34 9m	24	+2	3.4	2.7	27
2400014 Abertawe	18	+1	2.0	4.2	22	35 9m	24	+2	3.4	2.7	27
2400015 Abertawe	18	+1	2.0	4.2	22	36 9m	24	+2	3.4	2.7	27
2400016 Abertawe	18	+1	2.0	4.2	22	37 9m	24	+2	3.4	2.7	27
2400017 Abertawe	18	+1	2.0	4.2	22	38 9m	24	+2	3.4	2.7	27
2400018 Abertawe	18	+1	2.0	4.2	22	39 9m	24	+2	3.4	2.7	27
2400019 Abertawe	18	+1	2.0	4.2	22	40 9m	24	+2	3.4	2.7	27
2400020 Abertawe	18	+1	2.0	4.2	22	41 9m	24	+2	3.4	2.7	27
2400021 Abertawe	18	+1	2.0	4.2	22	42 9m	24	+2	3.4	2.7	27
2400022 Abertawe	18	+1	2.0	4.2	22	43 9m	24	+2	3.4	2.7	27
2400023 Abertawe	18	+1	2.0	4.2	22	44 9m	24	+2	3.4	2.7	27
2400024 Abertawe	18	+1	2.0	4.2	22	45 9m	24	+2	3.4	2.7	27
2400025 Abertawe	18	+1	2.0	4.2	22	46 9m	24	+2	3.4	2.7	27
2400026 Abertawe	18	+1	2.0	4.2	22	47 9m	24	+2	3.4	2.7	27
2400027 Abertawe	18	+1	2.0	4.2	22	48 9m	24	+2	3.4	2.7	27
2400028 Abertawe	18	+1	2.0	4.2	22	49 9m	24	+2	3.4	2.7	27
2400029 Abertawe	18	+1	2.0	4.2	22	50 9m	24	+2	3.4	2.7	27
2400030 Abertawe	18	+1	2.0	4.2	22	51 9m	24	+2	3.4	2.7	27
2400031 Abertawe	18	+1	2.0	4.2	22	52 9m	24	+2	3.4	2.7	27
2400032 Abertawe	18	+1	2.0	4.2	22	53 9m	24	+2	3.4	2.7	27
2400033 Abertawe	18	+1	2.0	4.2	22	54 9m	24	+2	3.4	2.7	27
2400034 Abertawe	18	+1	2.0	4.2	22	55 9m	24	+2	3.4	2.7	27
2400035 Abertawe	18	+1	2.0	4.2	22	56 9m	24	+2	3.4	2.7	27
2400036 Abertawe	18	+1	2.0	4.2	22	57 9m	24	+2	3.4	2.7	27
2400037 Abertawe	18	+1	2.0	4.2	22	58 9m	24	+2	3.4	2.7	27
2400038 Abertawe	18	+1	2.0	4.2	22	59 9m	24	+2	3.4	2.7	27
2400039 Abertawe	18	+1	2.0	4.2	22	60 9m	24	+2	3.4	2.7	27
2400040 Abertawe	18	+1	2.0	4.2	22	61 9m	24	+2	3.4	2.7	27
2400041 Abertawe	18	+1	2.0	4.2	22	62 9m	24	+2	3.4	2.7	27
2400042 Abertawe	18	+1	2.0	4.2	22	63 9m	24	+2	3.4	2.7	27
2400043 Abertawe	18	+1	2.0	4.2	22	64 9m	24	+2	3.4	2.7	27
2400044 Abertawe	18	+1	2.0	4.2	22	65 9m	24	+2	3.4	2.7	27
2400045 Abertawe	18	+1	2.0	4.2	22	66 9m	24	+2	3.4	2.7	27
2400046 Abertawe	18	+1	2.0	4.2	22	67 9m	24	+2	3.4	2.7	27
2400047 Abertawe	18	+1	2.0	4.2	22	68 9m	24	+2	3.4	2.7	27
2400048 Abertawe	18	+1	2.0	4.2	22	69 9m	24	+2	3.4	2.7	27
2400049 Abertawe	18	+1	2.0	4.2	22	70 9m	24	+2	3.4	2.7	27
2400050 Abertawe	18	+1	2.0	4.2	22	71 9m	24	+2	3.4	2.7	27
2400051 Abertawe	18	+1	2.0	4.2	22	72 9m	24	+2	3.4	2.7	27
2400052 Abertawe	18	+1	2.0	4.2	22	73 9m	24	+2	3.4	2.7	27
2400053 Abertawe	18	+1	2.0	4.2	22	74 9m	24	+2	3.4	2.7	27
2400054 Abertawe	18	+1	2.0	4.2	22	75 9m	24	+2	3.4	2.7	27
2400055 Abertawe	18	+1	2.0	4.2	22	76 9m	24	+2	3.4	2.7	27
2400056 Abertawe	18	+1	2.0	4.2	22	77 9m	24	+2	3.4	2.7	27
2400057 Abertawe	18	+1	2.0	4.2	22	78 9m	24	+2	3.4	2.7	27
2400058 Abertawe	18	+1	2.0	4.2	22	79 9m	24	+2	3.4	2.7	27
2400059 Abertawe	18	+1	2.0	4.2	22	80 9m	24	+2	3.4	2.7	27
2400060 Abertawe	18	+1	2.0	4.2	22	81 9m	24	+2	3.4	2.7	27
2400061 Abertawe	18	+1	2.0	4.2	22	82 9m	24	+2	3.4	2.7	27
2400062 Abertawe	18	+1	2.0	4.2	22	83 9m	24	+2	3.4	2.7	27
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John is 12

March 3, 1986

# The big shift towards the East

The Queen's visit to Australia, which will take her to Canberra, Sydney, Melbourne and Adelaide over the next 10 days, reminds us once again of the deep historical and personal links between our two countries. And yet, as Australians prepare to celebrate the 200th anniversary of British settlement in 1988, their day-to-day concerns are overwhelmingly with the Asia-Pacific region of which geographically they are a part.

Two facts illustrate this orientation. First, the alliance with the United States, which has guaranteed the country's security since the Second World War, and, second, trade with Japan, which for two decades has been the largest export market.

In recent years Australia has played a more independent role in the region. Gough Whitlam, who came to power with Labor in 1972, withdrew Australian troops from South Vietnam, recognized China, opened relations with North Vietnam and North Korea, and chose Papua New Guinea and Indonesia for his first overseas trip as Prime Minister. Although his Liberal (conservative) successor, Malcolm Fraser, had different priorities, he did not substantially reverse this trend. The Labor government which has held office since 1983 under Bob Hawke has sought to strengthen ties with South-East Asia in a more pragmatic way than Mr Whitlam, with the emphasis on economic cooperation.

Bill Hayden, the foreign minister, has tried, so far without success, to act as honest broker between Viet-

nam and the Asian countries over Cambodia. However, he does seem to have succeeded in burying the hatchet with Indonesia over East Timor. The visit of Mochtar Kusumaatmadja, the foreign minister, in December was remarkable for the absence of heat on this issue and there is now talk of President Suharto coming to Canberra.

In foreign policy matters Mr Hawke has concentrated on the ANZUS crisis and trade with China. The quarrel between New Zealand and the United States over the visits of American nuclear powered or armed vessels has cemented the relationship between Canberra and Washington. Australians seem to have decided that their country, with its proximity to the great Asian land mass, cannot afford a gesture such as New Zealand's, and support for the alliance is at an all-time high.

The Americans have been irritated by Mr Hawke's dithering over whether or not to cooperate in MX missile tests in the South Pacific (he eventually decided against) and by Mr Hayden's push in the United Nations for a comprehensive nuclear test ban treaty. However, these differences appear to have been worn comfortably in the light of Canberra's firm commitment to the alliance.

The two countries operate three joint facilities in Australia, including an early warning satellite ground station and a communications centre used mainly for keeping in touch with submerged nuclear submarines.

Relations with China have



been a particular concern of the last three Prime Ministers, although Mr Fraser used them as an anti-Soviet card. The value of Australian exports, mainly wheat, wool and iron ore, rose by over 70 per cent in fiscal 1984/85 to nearly \$A1,056 million (about £528 million) and negotiations are underway for China to invest in an iron ore mine, a blast furnace and an aluminium

### Australia has a trade surplus with Japan

smelter in Australia. However, two-way trade with Taiwan is still worth more than that with China.

Australia is one of the few countries to have a trade surplus with Japan (\$A1,247 million in 1984/85). However, the Japanese share of total

exports reached a peak 10 years ago while its portfolio of imports has steadily increased, overtaking that of the United States for the first time in 1983/84.

As a former administrative power, Australia maintains close relations with Papua New Guinea, to which it supplies about \$A200 million in aid a year. \$A140 million towards the budget and the rest as project and defence grants. The vulnerability of the Papua New Guinean economy and the tension with Indonesia over Melanesian guerrillas in Irian Jaya who seek refuge in PNG are causes of concern to Canberra; Australia's nearest neighbour remains a potential flashpoint.

In the South-West Pacific, Canberra has taken the initiative in getting the South Pacific Forum, which groups Australia, New Zealand and Pacific Islands, to endorse a

South Pacific nuclear free zone treaty. The area is of great strategic interest to Australia and Mr Hayden is due to tour it later this year. The future of New Caledonia, French nuclear testing, the fisheries agreement between Kiribati and the Soviet Union, and the danger of Libyan involvement will be high on his agenda.

Although the Hawke government is making its mark in the Asia-Pacific region it could be argued that it is following a series of *ad hoc* initiatives rather than a coherent external strategy.

Perhaps that will emerge only after a review commissioned by Kim Beazley, the defence minister, is published later this year. Paul Dibb of the Australian National Uni-

versity in Canberra has been asked to look at the structure of the armed forces in the light of peculiarly Australian, as opposed to allied, requirements.

While leaving the alliance with the United States intact, Australia will in future place more emphasis on defending its own vast territory. This is likely to be done by a combination of maritime strike capability and lightly armed ground forces which can be deployed rapidly. Such a concept is a retreat from wider responsibilities within the Western alliance but it does correspond more closely to the pronounced regional bent of Australian foreign policy.

Simon Scott Plummer

# An uphill fight for Honest John

John Winston Howard took over as leader of the Liberal Party in extraordinary circumstances on September 5, 1985. His predecessor, Andrew Peacock, had set out to remove him as his deputy after Mr Howard had refused to declare he would not seek election to the leadership before the next federal poll.

The move backfired disastrously for Mr Peacock. Mr Howard defeated the challenger for the deputy's post by 38 votes to 31. Mr Peacock then resigned and Mr Howard was elected leader of the party by 57 votes to six with seven abstentions.

His accession has brought a new look to the leadership of the Opposition, which has traditionally been dominated by the Victorian Establishment. Mr Howard is from a small business background — his father ran a garage — in New South Wales. Both he and his deputy, Neil Brown, went to state schools and the Liberals' leader and deputy leader in the Senate are both Roman Catholics.

It also marks a swing to the right in the party, which distinguishes it more sharply from a conservative Labor government than under Mr Peacock. Mr Howard supported Labor's deregulation of the financial market but would like to extend this to the labour market. This is anathema to the unions and a government whose political platform is based on their support. He also favours selling off parts of the public sector.

Mr Howard, who is 46, is a small, bespectacled man with a ruddy complexion and thinning grey hair. He has a reputation for honesty, a quality evident in an interview with *The Times* in his office in Parliament House, Canberra, during which he answered questions simply and directly.

He said he had been interested in politics for as long as he could remember and recalled the 1949 election, when Robert Menzies returned to power and when petrol ration-

ing was a big issue. Menzies, Churchill and Mrs Gandhi are people whose strength he admires and he also respects Mrs Thatcher and President Reagan for the way they have captured the public mood.

After graduating in law from Sydney University in 1961 Mr Howard joined a firm of solicitors. In 1974 he was elected to the federal parliament as member for the Sydney suburb of Bennelong, which he still represents. He and his wife, Janette, and their three children, a girl and two boys, live in Wauchope, another Sydney suburb.

Mr Howard was appointed Opposition spokesman on consumer affairs and commerce in March 1975 and, after the Liberal-National Party coalition returned to power later that year, became successively Minister for Business and Consumer Affairs, Minister of State for Special Trade Negotiations,



John Howard: A new look to Opposition leadership

Minister for Finance, and Treasurer. The last portfolio he held from 1977 to 1983. He became deputy leader of the Liberals in 1982.

In the six months since he assumed the leadership of the Opposition Mr Howard has had an uphill struggle to convince the country that he could beat Bob Hawke in a general election. Whatever the problems of the present government — and they are many — Mr Hawke has retained his popularity as a good bloke who

Continued on page 2

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AUSTRALIA/2

FOCUS

Growth, but no safety margin



A bird's eye view of Sydney's business district

The Labor government has succeeded beyond all expectations with its "dash for growth" and "jobs now" economic strategy in the past three years, achieving this in the face of both a commodity price slump and subdued growth among Australia's trade partners.

Growth has been running at more than four per cent a year, faster than in virtually all the industrial economies, and Australia's best performance in a quarter of a century.

Unemployment has fallen a couple of points to eight per cent, the country is having its fourth year of industrial stability, corporate profit share is returning to late 1960s levels, and labour costs are now below the late 1960s level. For all that, there is a penalty for governments that ignore the orthodoxies, especially when inflation rates are out of step with those of trading partners.

Australia's 8.2 per cent, including a couple of points for last year's devaluation, compares with about 5.5 per cent for Britain, 3.6 per cent for the United States, 1.9 per cent for Japan and 1.8 per cent for West Germany.

Paul Keating, the Treasurer, argues that the real index of competitiveness is labour costs, where Australia's real unit costs rose half a point less than the key trading partners' over 1984/85. With a 6.1 per cent rise expected over 1985/86, it would be only a point above the average overseas.

However, international scepticism is reinforced when Australia's economic growth is fuelled by big budget deficits and when the growth is dependent on heavy borrowing offshore to fund an exceptionally weak balance of payments (an expected current account deficit for 1985/86 of about \$A12 billion).

The result has been a devaluation of the Australian dollar by currency markets last year of about 20 per cent. To keep the dollar at its present level of around 68-71 US cents, the government is having to run

short-term interest rates (nominal and real) at levels well above the OECD norm. The bank prime rate, for example, is around 20 per cent.

The success to date has been a function of the "accord" with the trade union movement, based on confining wage gains to the rate of inflation. Part of the accord theory was that the unions were to be brought into the policy-setting framework. The hope of economic growth has enabled the Australian Council of Trade Unions to go along with the profit restoration, financial deregulation, and less than full wage indexation.

The ACTU has kept its side of the bargain. Wages drift and industrial disputes have been minimal, and the government and ACTU have acted sharply against renegade unions trying to bust out of the accord restraints.

Hence this recovery has not run into the normal wages-explosion brick wall. The expansion has run instead into the balance of payments constraint. It is now difficult to satisfy both unions and the foreign exchange market.

There are further consequences of the government running an economic policy on a nil safety margin. For instance, the latest sag in oil prices cannot be passed on fully into local petrol prices because the government is dependent on oil taxes to finance major income tax cuts promised in 1986 and 1987.

On the other hand, to keep up oil prices will further worsen Australia's inflation rate relative to those of its trading partners, and the currency and hence the accord

Business community is apprehensive

will again come under pressure (devaluations require a discounting of wage indexation).

Fiscal policy has also been hampered by the unions' refusal to last year's tax summit to wear Mr Keating's proposed broad-based consumption tax. These developments merely indicate that the basic premise of the accord — maintenance and improvement of real workforce living standards — is suspect in an

economy heavily in lock to overseas lenders and now subject to sharply deteriorating world prices on its major exports.

The accord mark II for the two years from October 1985 has underwritten real wages with the bonus of improved workforce superannuation and a shorter working week.

What worries the market is that, given a choice between averting a rise in unemployment and keeping the Australian dollar high, the Labor government would use monetary and fiscal policy to support employment. This would imply acceptance of a weaker dollar later this year and a sudden end to the bullish mood of foreign investors.

Labor's new "trilogy" policy promises are for no rise in federal tax as a proportion of GDP over the life of the current parliament, a similar no-rise policy for spending and a cut in the deficit-gdp ratio in the same period.

The burst of economic growth in the wake of the devaluation early last year has enabled Mr Keating to meet the "trilogy" targets in 1985/86. If growth now slows, heavy spending cuts are going to be needed.

While the country has enjoyed its bluge of growth, the business community has remained apprehensive, and capital investment has run down to surprisingly low levels. A further problem is the slow pace at which industrial restructuring is being achieved through cuts in protection of Australia's least efficient industries.

Generally, the manufacturing sector is uncompetitive on world markets and acts as a drag on both rural and tertiary sector efficiency. The problem is compounded because high-value-added manufactured goods are the major area of growth in world trade patterns.

Tony Thomas  
Accountancy Editor  
Business Review Weekly,  
Melbourne.

Two-airline policy under review

In a country the size of Australia, air travel is the most convenient way of moving between cities. However, the airline system is quite different from that of the United States.

Whereas the US market has been deregulated since 1978, the Australian is strictly controlled by a policy which provides for two carriers, Ansett and Trans Australia Airlines (TAA), to fly trunk routes within the country and a third, Qantas, to be the sole international carrier.

This domestic duopoly, in which the two airlines have similar capacity, charge the same fares and, in the main, fly the same routes at approximately the same time, is under review.

Ansett, a private company owned jointly by Sir Peter Abeles' TNT and Rupert Murdoch's News Corporation, wants to leave things largely as they are, arguing that there has not yet been time to evaluate fully changes in the policy introduced in 1981 to foster competition.

TAA, which is state-owned, wishes, like Ansett, to retain the two-airline system. But it advocates greater freedom to set fares and to decide on how its fleet should be used. It would also like access to intrastate and to some international routes.

East-West Airlines is out to break their duopoly. Owned by Ric Stowe, a West Australian millionaire, it sees the present system as stifling innovation and making air travel unnecessarily expensive, and is calling for gradual deregulation.

In an attempt to force the pace of change, East-West has challenged the two-airlines policy in the High Court on the grounds that it contravenes Section 92 of the constitution, which guarantees free trade and commerce between the states.

Though it is Australia's overseas carrier, Qantas, which, like TAA, is government-owned, has made a submission to the review body because it wants restoration of the right to carry on the domestic sectors of its international

services (eg. Sydney-Perth) passengers brought to Australia by foreign airlines.

The government is expected to introduce changes but, because it is the owner of one of the two main domestic carriers, these are unlikely to be drastic. However, things could look very different if the two-airline policy is ruled unconstitutional by the High Court.

Turning to the international scene, Qantas's current worry is the advent of United Airlines to the Pacific. The largest American carrier, United has bought Pan American's assets in the region and began flights to Australia last month. Qantas fears that with its strong domestic base and lower labour costs, United will be able to offer big discounts on its overseas flights.

On the "kangaroo" route between Australia and Britain, Qantas and British Airways estimate they have between 40 and 50 per cent of the market. BA increased its flights to 10 a week last December and Qantas will follow suit next month.

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Annual General Meeting

Group operating profit after tax in 1984/85 amounted to almost \$302 million, an increase of 30.1%. This result must be placed into perspective with the major changes that have taken place within Australian financial markets. It was inevitable that Australian banks would gain something from the initial round of deregulation. Indeed, it would have been an unhealthy sign if they had not.

The second round of changes within the financial industry involves establishment of the new bank entrants. There always has been strong competition within the banking industry, but the next five years is going to be something of a watershed, as the new entrants make their bids for a viable share. The success of 1984/85 has provided National Australia Bank with an excellent start and it is revamping its strategies to meet these new competitive challenges.

The Bank was first to offer payment systems to the new banks and non-banks seeking agency access. Innovations in deposit and lending products are taking place, some of which are well ahead of those being offered by overseas banks in their domestic markets. A new zone concept will place specialist service and advice closer to people in branches to maintain and enhance customer relationships.

At the same time, the Bank is taking advantage of the increased opportunity foreign bank entry is providing to extend and upgrade its presence overseas. It has also established National Australia Life Limited to enter the Life Insurance market.

National Australia Bank Limited

Highlights of the Chairman's Address

Economic Outlook

The broader economic outlook suggests a difficult operating environment in the near term. High real rates of interest strike at the very heart of economic growth and development. Real rates of interest of well over 10% per annum, stifle investment and our ability to achieve productivity gains. New investment in productive economic ventures cannot be forced and markets must be allowed to operate unfettered. A healthy stable environment, devoid of the uncertainties associated with high real interest rates, is an essential prerequisite.

Of great concern is the resurgence of inflation and the perceived lack of confidence in the Australian dollar. Undoubtedly a tight monetary stance is a necessary strategy in these circumstances. However, it should not be allowed to bear the full brunt of deflationary policy. It will also be necessary to reduce or postpone government expenditure and restrain wages growth. To maintain pressure on interest rates for too long may well prove highly detrimental to the nation's medium term prospects.

Rising domestic costs and low returns are severely impacting on farm incomes and depressing property values. The agricultural policies of the European Economic Community and the United States of America are distorting markets and resulting in a poor outlook for commodity prices. The Bank strongly encourages the Federal Government to maintain its protest on these issues and for its part the Bank, as a major lender to the rural sector, will continue to sympathetically treat viable farmers in difficulty.

Ultimately the success of National Australia Bank is going to be closely bound to the future prosperity of our own country. As a financial intermediary, we have an important role to play but we can only play that role if the economic climate is supportive. Many more hard decisions have yet to be made before we can look forward to this country reaching the very considerable potential it undoubtedly possesses.

Sir Robert Law-Smith,  
Chairman of Directors,  
Melbourne,  
January 23, 1986.

SUMMARY OF RESULTS (Year ended September)

	1983 (\$m)	1984 (\$m)	1985 (\$m)
Total Group assets	23,283	27,505	35,329
Group operating profit (after tax)	161	228	302
Earnings per share	62c	70c	88c
Dividend per stock unit	23c	25c	27.5c

National Australia Bank

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Honest John's uphill fight

Continued from page 1

understands the feelings of the ordinary Australian.

In an opinion poll published in the weekly magazine *The Bulletin* last month, half of those questioned supported Labor, compared to 42 per cent for the Liberal-National coalition. However, when it came to who would make the better Prime Minister, Mr Howard scored only 19 per cent against Mr Hawke's 66 per cent.

As well as taking on Labor, Mr Howard has had to consolidate his position within the Liberal Party after his surprising victory last September.

This he appears to have achieved to a large extent and it will be interesting to see whether he and his party will now be able to take advantage of the government's weak points.

These include one of the most serious crises ever to affect Australian farmers, stagnation in mining (apart from gold), high interest rates, a huge current account deficit, soaring debt, a retreat over tax reform in the face of union opposition, and a failure, for revenue reasons, to pass on fully to consumers the benefits of the drop in world oil prices. The Liberals will have no lack of targets to attack between now and the next federal election, and in the current session of parliament, which began last month, they are adopting more aggressive tactics towards their opponents than they did before Christmas.

The question is whether "Honest John" Howard can capitalize on Labor's difficulties and emerge as a popular leader.

Evidently he intends to try a more hard-hitting approach. "The Opposition is for black and white," he told *The Times*. "Shades of grey are for the government."

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BMP

Australia's Business Migration Program

FOCUS

King Coal is still mining the big money

Senator Gareth Evans, Minister for Resources and Energy, spoke at an international mining conference last August of an emotional resistance in Australia to being typecast as "a quarry and a farm for the rest of the world".

But the fact is that the dominance of minerals and oil, which account for 49 per cent of Australia's exports (compared with agriculture's 39 per cent) is, if anything, only likely to increase.

Recent Sydney Stock Exchange surveys forecast that coal, already Australia's leading export, will account within the next two years for more foreign revenue than the combined total of the number two and three earners, wheat and wool.

Coal and oil together bring in 55 per cent of mineral earnings, compared with nine per cent for aluminium, eight per cent for iron ore and four per cent for bauxite. All precious metals and gems account for only four per cent. The industry is based around bulky, low-value commodities for which transport is a major determinant of costs.

The common belief is that last year's sharp fall in the value of the Australian dollar has enabled mining companies to sustain a slow and patchy recovery from the

1981-82 recession. But the influential annual survey by the Australian Mining Industry Council (Amic), conducted by Coopers and Lybrand and released in December, sounded a cautionary note.

Despite a substantial increase in 1984-85 in sales volume and increased profitability, the survey says, the industry did not receive an adequate return on its investments.

Total revenues increased by 26 per cent to \$A13,859 million (about £6,929 million) while industry profits rose from \$A462 million in 1983/84 to \$A640 million. Projections for the 1985-86 year say profits could rise to \$A1,000 million.

The Amic survey says, however, that last year's returns were "well below acceptable levels". The effective after-tax return on funds employed was 5.5 per cent, and net profit return on total revenue was 4.6 per cent. These figures compared with pre-tax returns on government bonds of 13.5 per cent.

Sydney Stock Exchange members are predicting a continuation of low demand and over-supply in mineral commodities, with a generally flat outlook for the next few years.

For coal, which in 1984 earned \$A6,210 million or 29

per cent of the value of all mineral production, there are two parts of the picture. The outlook for coking coal is weak, with Japanese steel production likely to be reduced from 150 million tonnes last year to between 96 and 102 million tonnes in 1985/86.

For steaming coal, on the



Under the Prime Minister Bob Hawke, investment in mining is stagnant

other hand, the outlook is promising. According to Meares and Philips of the Sydney Stock Exchange Australia's steaming coal capacity will have increased from 35 million to 40 million tonnes by mid-year, and this will be fully used against a

background of impending international shortages.

Coal is one of the areas where the industry can point to a broad pattern of cost-cutting, increased productivity and technological innovation. According to statistics produced by the joint coal board, average output per man shift increased by 10.9 per cent to 20.33 tonnes in the last financial year.

Iron ore producers are happier these days, having got over a bad patch a year ago caused by a substantial price reduction. Increased efficiency and an improvement in industrial relations are partly responsible for the buoyant mood but the industry remains vulnerable to trends in Japan, far and away its main customer.

Aluminium is expected to be badly affected by overproduction in 1986. The glut will only get deeper with the scheduled opening of a new smelter project in Portland, Victoria, with a capacity for 180,000 tonnes a year.

Other base metals are not thought likely to show any significant change. Predictions are for a slight upswing in demand for copper and a cutback in nickel production.

The Amic survey says a point of great concern is a decline of 14 per cent in

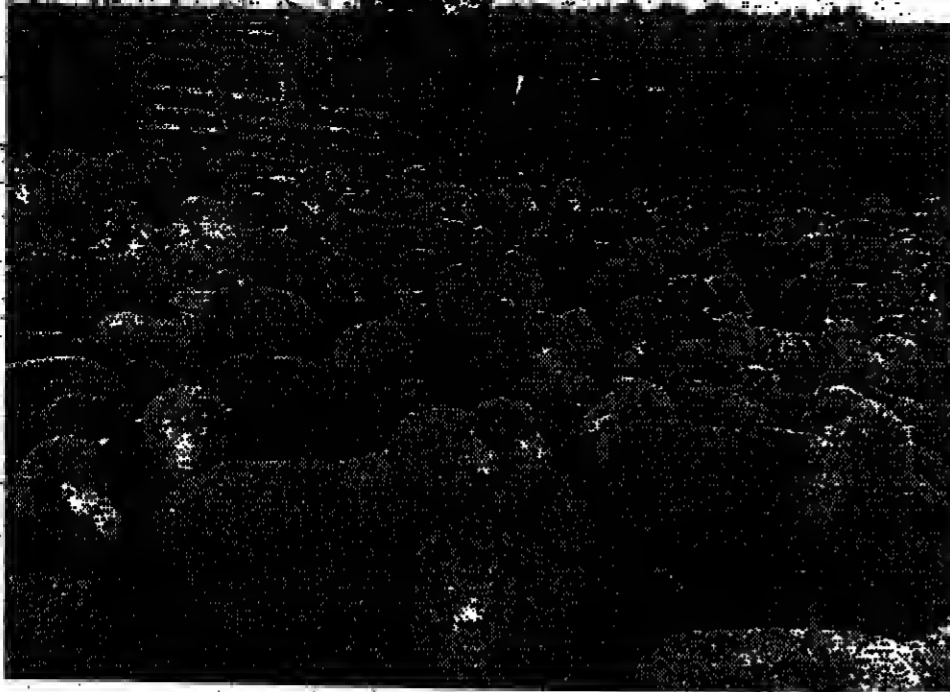
exploration investment to \$A218 million. The long-term viability of the industry, it adds, depends on the discovery of new reserves which can be developed at low cost.

The past five years of low profits have also slowed up new investment programmes. No large-scale new projects were begun in the 1984-85 year, and most new investment was on gold, of which Australia is only the fifth largest western producer and which accounts for 2.1 per cent of total mineral production.

The survey also points to what it describes as a significant trend emerging in recent years. In 1979-80, when profits were running at acceptable levels, income tax represented about 64 per cent of total company taxes. A range of new levies or increases in statutory charges has since been introduced, however, and while tax is sensitive to fluctuations in profitability, these government charges are not. By 1984-85 income tax accounted for only 45 per cent of company taxes.

Another long-term concern of the mining companies is possible legislation limiting their access to resources, in particular the question of Aboriginal land rights.

Stephen Taylor



A Merino flock: The picture looks much better for Australia's sheep farmers

The anxious farmers

As the National Agricultural Outlook conference in January made plain, the rural sector does not fit into the broadly optimistic economic canvas viewed from Canberra. Agriculture, which still contributes something of the order of 40 per cent to export earnings, is in trouble, and all the prognoses suggest 1986 is going to make matters substantially worse.

It would probably be mistaken to read too much at this stage into the emergence of a new militancy among producers, which has given rise to angry demonstrations in the capital and threats to blockade agricultural exports. But the mood among Australia's 176,000 farmers is bitter at the continuing erosion of rural living standards and in many cases despairing of any foreseeable improvement.

Two statistics give some indication of the extent of the problem. The first is that the real net value of rural production, which is the profit reaped by producers after all costs and inflation have been taken into account, is expected to fall by a quarter in 1985/86. The second is that the average return for each working member on family farms, which produce about eight per cent of agricultural output, is now projected at AS3,700 (£1,850), or half the level of the dole.

The latest quarterly review of the rural economy, published by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, contains another grim figure. Return on invested capital in 1985/86 is expected to be minus six per cent, compared with 1.5 per cent last year and 4.8 per cent the year before.

It is estimated that the average family farm income this year will be about \$A7,000, while 35 per cent will have a negative income. Australia is among the world's leading producers and exporters of wheat, wool, and meat. It also has substantial dairy, sugar, coarse grain, rice, fruit and fishery industries.

To deal with the lesser first world dairy prices have been falling since 1982, and the expectation is that local producers will continue to face strong competition on a depressed international market for the next few years.

Few Australian sugar producers are likely to be in a position to benefit from a limited world price increase because of a bad growing season in Queensland which was topped off earlier this year by a crop-ravaging cyclone.

rice production is up in most Asian consumer nations and prices are at their lowest relative level since the war: strong potential for fruit and vegetable producers has not yet been realized, because of poor marketing against the trend, the fishing outlook is for a continued improvement. The chief area of concern for 1986 is the wheat industry. The value of the 1985/86 crop has been revised upwards to \$A2,920m as a result of new indicators, but is still 12 per cent down on 1984-85. According to the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, the most likely value of the crop being sowed this year will show an even greater drop, to \$A2,530m, a decline of nearly 20 per cent in real terms.

The picture is brighter for both wool and meat, which are expected to increase in terms of gross production value by four per cent and seven per cent respectively, while in export terms they are expected to increase in value by 10 per cent and 11 per cent.

For most of these broadly gloomy figures there is, so far as the agricultural establishment is concerned, one fundamental cause - subsidies on produce from the European community and now the United States. The real villain of the piece is seen to be the EEC's Common Agricultural

Policy, which is estimated by the BAE to be raising Australia's exports per annum.

The proposed US Farm Bill provoked some heavy broadsides to start with but it is seen as a partly justifiable response to the CAP. And since John Dawkins, the trade minister, was assured on a visit to Washington last month that the administration was out to "noble" the Europeans and would "take steps to avoid hurting Australia in its legitimate markets, the full attention of Canberra's resentment has turned back to Brussels.

While the government is, not unnaturally, keen to see the CAP take the blame for the rural crisis, producers believe Canberra could be doing a great deal more to help them through their difficulties.

Inflation is roughly double that of Australia's competitors and means rising costs to run with declining prices. While last year's decline in the value of the dollar was of some benefit, the effect was also to increase fertilizer and fuel prices. The prices and wages accord is proving harmful to the rural sector and the Na-

tional Farmers' Federation says that centralized wage fixing has to be made more flexible.

Another area in which the NFF and producers are demanding government action is on high interest rates, which are adding to the rural burden in the form of increased debt-servicing costs.

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FOCUS

Fast new life in the Cinderella state

South Australia has tended to be seen as a Cinderella among Australian states, lacking the confidence of New South Wales and Victoria with their large populations and politico-economic influence...

1960s and 1970s it led the way in social reform, legalizing homosexuality and abolishing censorship and capital punishment...

around the world watched it on television. It was voted the best run race of the season by the competing teams and is estimated to have brought between \$A40 million and \$A50 million (£20 million and £25 million) into the local economy...

technology. Just north of the capital it has opened a technology park offering office space to hi-tech companies which are starting up...

Disposable Products Australia, one of the country's largest makers of hiotechnology and medical products, is to set up an R&D complex at the park and British Aerospace Australia is building a new headquarters there...

Dynamic image to attract investment

Queen and Prince Philip, which begins on Saturday, and the World Three Day Event Championships from May 22-25 at Gawler, north of Adelaide...



The best time to catch an Aussie with his pants down is while he's resting on his laurels.

Everyone knows that the Aussies are a bit of a bit of noise lately. And doing quite well, thank you too. But not everyone knows that while some Australians are strutting around like peacocks, there are some prime opportunities back in Australia...

McIntosh Hamson Hoare Govett Ltd.

This beautiful empty country

In the land of Lord-knows-where, Right up and furthest out, You'll find a new Australia there.



The face of an Aborigine: Waiting for change

Forty years ago I lay in my swag one night on the treeless Barkly Tableland in the Northern Territory, listening to the bells and the hobble chains on our horses. I could hear the Aboriginal stockmen riding around the cattle we had mustered that day...

hopes to establish a free trade zone because, he says, "we live on the brink of the South-East Asian/Western Pacific region, the fastest growing economic bloc in the world".

Because these Aboriginal councils need mining royalties to give their people capital and income, they do eventually make agreements. But they don't get deals signed as quickly (and cheaply) as the miners and Mr Tuxworth would like.

More than 500,000 tourists a year

Stewart Harris

Tailor-made Australian business trips. Now at 20 Savile Row.

If you're flying to Australia on business, we'd like to remind you of one thing. It's a big place. And getting around down under can sometimes be a little difficult. That's why Ansett Airlines of Australia have opened an office in Savile Row. So we can help organise everything for you before you leave London.

standards in service and comfort. But if you'd like to know more about how we can help your Australian business travel, send off the coupon. Or contact your travel agent or British Airways. Better still, come in and see us at 20 Savile Row. You'll need a tropical wardrobe for Australia anyway.

I'd like to know how you can help with business travel in Australia. Name: Address: Send to: Mr Robert Hardless, Regional Manager, United Kingdom and Ireland, Ansett Airlines of Australia, 20 Savile Row London W1X 2AN

Ansett Airlines of Australia

Black takes England I old famil... lowe century... sources ba... kapil Dev retain...



CRICKET:TRINIDAD PROTESTS STAY PEACEFUL

Slack takes grip after England lapse into an old familiar pattern

From John Woodcock, Cricket Correspondent, Trinidad

After gaining a first innings lead of 120 on the last day of their match against Trinidad, England had done pretty well when they finished Trinidad off for 109 in their first innings yesterday. It was another deteriorating pitch...

vacuum, the distant cacophony of protests a reminder why England had done pretty well when they finished Trinidad off for 109 in their first innings yesterday...

But England's batting was no better when they went in again than it has been all the tour. In the fifth over of their second innings Gooch was leg before to a ball from Gray that cut back at him...

Table with 2 columns: Player Name, Score. Includes G A Gooch, R T Robinson, W N Slack, etc.

It has been as though a pack of protestors, marshalled by police, was occupying the pavement on the opposite side of the road from the Grace Gates at Lord's, constantly singing "How many more, bearing slogans such as 'We love cricket but hate apartheid more'..."

Crowe century as he bounces back

Christchurch (AP) - New Zealand, led by an injured Martin Crowe, staged a fine recovery to reach near parity with Australia on the third day of the second Test yesterday...

Mohsin is pilot of victory

Kandy (Reuters) - Mohsin Jaffer led a fluent 59 pilot of victory for Pakistan in an eight-wicket win over Sri Lanka in their first one-day international here yesterday...

Kapil Dev retained

New Delhi (Reuters) - India's cricket selectors decided yesterday to retain Kapil Dev as captain for the team's tour to Sri Lanka and Sharjah next month and for the tour of England starting in May...

CYCLING: VICTORY FOR IRISHMAN IN PARIS



Sean Kelly on his way to winning the prologue of the Paris-Nice race yesterday. Kelly clocked 7min 19.22sec for the 5.9-kilometre course. Report, page 26.

RUGBY LEAGUE

French resistance is ground down on debutants' day

By Keith Macklin

With a biting wind at their backs, Great Britain were given several early penalty kick chances by the Australian referee, Kevin Roberts, but Crooks missed a couple and landed one...

A fortnight ago the French showed great tenacity, skill and spirit in holding Great Britain to a 10-10 draw at Avignon. After that game the Great Britain coach, Maurice Bamford, conceded that Britain had been lucky to scrape a draw...

St Helens too fast for league leaders

By Keith Macklin

Halifax, the League leaders, came up against a St Helens side in brilliant attacking form at Knowlsey Road, St Helens, superbly led by the lightning breaks of Holding and Haggerty...

Halifax, who have just spent five days on a Spanish holiday, took a long time to settle down again to the English winter, but a try by Robinson and a goal by Whitfield gave them heart. However, careless handling cost them both tries and possession...

Widnes went to the top of the League with a narrow 20-18 win over Leeds, their championship challengers. The most remarkable comeback and victory of the day was provided by Hull

HOCKEY Former cup holders are eliminated by Welton

By Sydney Friskin

East Grinstead, winners of the Hockey Association Cup two seasons ago, were eliminated yesterday when they were beaten 2-1 in the third round by Welton, the only Northern survivors in the competition...

Ica, who retained the Sun Life World League title on Saturday, also qualified for the fourth round with a 3-1 victory over Leicester Westleigh. Martin, Rodgers and Julian Laxon for Leicester Westleigh from a penalty stroke.

Taunton Vale moved into the fourth round with a 2-1 victory over Otton and West Warwickshire and their next opponents will be Pickwick, Berry and Masters scored for Taunton Vale and Wilkinson for Otton

YACHTING Lighter winds delay yachts at Cape Horn

By Barry Pickthall

Lighter winds off the weekend have delayed the Whitbread round the world yacht race fleet as they approach Cape Horn and the leaders were expected to round this notorious rocky outcrop dividing the Pacific and Atlantic oceans until tonight...

The leading maxi, UBS Switzerland, skippered by Pierre Felzmann, still had 347 miles to run yesterday morning

LEADING POSITIONS (10:00GMT yesterday): 1. UBS (Switzerland); 2. Corsica (Belgium); 3. Atlantic Privater (USA); 4. Druif (UK); 5. Lon (New Zealand); 6. Lesider (USA); 7. Barmat (USA); 8. Equipe (France); 9. Ruzenor (Belgium); 10. Equity and Law (Netherlands); 11. Philips Innovator (Netherlands); 12. France (France)

RUGBY RESULTS

INTERNATIONAL MATCHES: England 25, Ireland 20, Wales 15 France 25. JOHN SMITH'S MERIT TABLE: A: Headingley 2, Nottingham 2, Bradford 2, Postponed: Oriel v Cloudfur.

SNOOKER

Davis well on course for another world title

By Sydney Friskin

Steve Davis has set himself up as the favourite for the world title after winning the Dulux British Open championship at Derby yesterday. In a scheduled 23-frame final, which he dominated almost from the start, he defeated Willie Thorne 12-7.

The first prize of £55,000 took Davis's earnings for the season to a total of £207,750, which is a record itself. No player has ever exceeded the £200,000 mark in one season. His cumulative powers were demonstrated at the table.

GOLF Storms haunt Americans

By John Ballantine

The second round of the British Open at Royal St George's last year has become a current term of reference from the US tour. "It was bad out there," said Tom Watson after a stormy day at Pebble Beach.

Other Americans refer back to even wilder days in our championship, to wrecker weather at Turnberry or St Andrews, but the Saturday at Sandwich was the worst of the \$500,000 Honda Classic which undoubtedly be remembered not only for the 40mph gale but for the high scores it produced.

Andy Bean, who at 6 ft 4 inches and nearly 16 stone has enough weight to anchor himself down, scored 77 and yet still became the joint leader with Clarence Rose, the rapidly improving 27-year-old North Carolinian who has not yet won a title.

TENNIS Connors eliminated

By Barry Pickthall

La Quinta, California (Reuters) - Joakim Nystrom ousted second-seeded Jimmy Connors and Yannick Noah beat his Davis Cup teammate Thierry Tulasne to advance to the finals of the \$405,000 La Quinta Classic tournament.

Nystrom, the fifth seed, had a surprisingly easy time as he eliminated Connors 6-4, 6-2. The fourth-seeded Noe won the all-French match against Tulasne, seeded 10th, 6-2, 6-7, 7-5.

Noah, who won this tournament in 1982 and was runner-up to Connors in 1984, will be playing Nystrom for only the second time. He lost to the Swede in their only previous meeting, last year at an indoor tournament in Stockholm.

Connors looked sluggish against Nystrom and showed neither the groundstroke power nor the spirited return of service that usually mark his game.

Nystrom wore a black armband during the match, a sign of mourning for the assassinated Swedish Prime Minister, Olof Palme. The 23-year-old player said he and the others were shocked by the murder.

Ranked No.9 in the world, Nystrom combined a steady baseline game and heavy topspin to frustrate Connors during the 84-minute match.

"I tried to play to his forehand," said Nystrom, who has not lost a set in beating three players - including Boris Becker in Friday's quarter-finals - "He made a lot of mistakes out there, especially on the forehand."

TENNIS

Spectacular win for Kanai

Hong Kong (Reuters) - Seichi Kanai, of Japan, snook 20-foot putt for a birdie on the final hole to snatch a dramatic victory in the Hong Kong Open championship yesterday.

Kanai, 45, who won by one stroke from Ian Baker-Finch, of Australia, achieved a hole-in-one at the 198-yard fifth hole when he faced a four-iron shot.

RESULTS: 208 Seichi Kanai (Japan); 208: 1 Baker-Finch (Aus); 207: Heon Yu-Su (Taiwan); 206: G Turner (NZ); B Jones (Aus); 205: Rullidge (NZ); 200: Luo Kuo-Chai (Taiwan); M Prieto (Sp); British players: 298: S Torrance, R Flattery.

YACHTING

Lighter winds delay yachts at Cape Horn

Lighter winds off the weekend have delayed the Whitbread round the world yacht race fleet as they approach Cape Horn and the leaders were expected to round this notorious rocky outcrop dividing the Pacific and Atlantic oceans until tonight...

Roman challenger

Rosaka (Reuters) - Jiro Watanabe of Japan, will defend his World Boxing Council (WBC) super-flyweight title against Gilberto Roman of Mexico, the no.1 ranked challenger, in Ham, western Japan, on March 30.

Blow to the eye

Geoff Cook, the Northamptonshire captain and former England opening batsman, is in hospital after being injured playing squash.

FOR THE RECORD

215.0: 3. F Vetter (Austria) 212.8; 4. H Bahr (Switzerland) 205.3; 5. F Fitting (Austria) 200.2; 6. P Buerer (FRG) 200.2; 7. R Assmann (Nor) 200.0; 8. V Oates (Nor) 198.1; 9. P Oates (Nor) 197.8; 10. M Peterson (Nor) 187.2; 11. H Sandberg (Nor) 187.2; 12. M Tapes (Nor) 181.1; 13. World Cup standings: 1. Nystrom (Swe) 2,000; 2. Vetter (Austria) 1,800; 3. Fitting (Austria) 1,700; 4. P Oates (Nor) 1,600; 5. H Bahr (Switzerland) 1,500; 6. Buerer (FRG) 1,400; 7. R Assmann (Nor) 1,300; 8. V Oates (Nor) 1,200; 9. M Peterson (Nor) 1,100; 10. H Sandberg (Nor) 1,000.

CRICKET

215.0: 3. F Vetter (Austria) 212.8; 4. H Bahr (Switzerland) 205.3; 5. F Fitting (Austria) 200.2; 6. P Buerer (FRG) 200.2; 7. R Assmann (Nor) 200.0; 8. V Oates (Nor) 198.1; 9. P Oates (Nor) 197.8; 10. M Peterson (Nor) 187.2; 11. H Sandberg (Nor) 187.2; 12. M Tapes (Nor) 181.1; 13. World Cup standings: 1. Nystrom (Swe) 2,000; 2. Vetter (Austria) 1,800; 3. Fitting (Austria) 1,700; 4. P Oates (Nor) 1,600; 5. H Bahr (Switzerland) 1,500; 6. Buerer (FRG) 1,400; 7. R Assmann (Nor) 1,300; 8. V Oates (Nor) 1,200; 9. M Peterson (Nor) 1,100; 10. H Sandberg (Nor) 1,000.

ICE HOCKEY

NORTH AMERICA: Vancouver Canucks 4, Detroit Red Wings 3; Chicago Blackhawks 4, Montreal Canadiens 3; New York Rangers 4, Washington Capitals 3; Hartford Whalers 4, Pittsburgh Penguins 3; New Jersey Devils 3, Buffalo Sabres 2; Quebec Nordiques 4.

BASKETBALL

UNITED STATES: Houston Rockets 123, Los Angeles Lakers 108; Philadelphia 76ers 118, Denver Nuggets 107; Portland Trail Blazers 117, Houston Rockets 112; Atlanta Hawks 112, San Antonio Spurs 108; New York Knicks 112, New York Rangers 102; Dallas Mavericks 119, Detroit Pistons 103; Utah Jazz 112, Sacramento Kings 94.

GOLF

DOSTA MESA: PGA tournament 210: 1. Tom Watson (USA); 2. Raymond Floyd (USA); 3. Jack Nicklaus (USA); 4. Gary Player (RSA); 5. Tommy Lasorda (USA); 6. Tom Watson (USA); 7. Raymond Floyd (USA); 8. Jack Nicklaus (USA); 9. Gary Player (RSA); 10. Tom Watson (USA); 11. Raymond Floyd (USA); 12. Jack Nicklaus (USA); 13. Gary Player (RSA); 14. Tom Watson (USA); 15. Raymond Floyd (USA); 16. Jack Nicklaus (USA); 17. Gary Player (RSA); 18. Tom Watson (USA); 19. Raymond Floyd (USA); 20. Jack Nicklaus (USA); 21. Gary Player (RSA); 22. Tom Watson (USA); 23. Raymond Floyd (USA); 24. Jack Nicklaus (USA); 25. Gary Player (RSA); 26. Tom Watson (USA); 27. Raymond Floyd (USA); 28. Jack Nicklaus (USA); 29. Gary Player (RSA); 30. Tom Watson (USA); 31. Raymond Floyd (USA); 32. Jack Nicklaus (USA); 33. Gary Player (RSA); 34. Tom Watson (USA); 35. Raymond Floyd (USA); 36. Jack Nicklaus (USA); 37. Gary Player (RSA); 38. Tom Watson (USA); 39. Raymond Floyd (USA); 40. Jack Nicklaus (USA); 41. Gary Player (RSA); 42. Tom Watson (USA); 43. Raymond Floyd (USA); 44. Jack Nicklaus (USA); 45. Gary Player (RSA); 46. Tom Watson (USA); 47. Raymond Floyd (USA); 48. Jack Nicklaus (USA); 49. Gary Player (RSA); 50. Tom Watson (USA); 51. Raymond Floyd (USA); 52. Jack Nicklaus (USA); 53. Gary Player (RSA); 54. Tom Watson (USA); 55. Raymond Floyd (USA); 56. Jack Nicklaus (USA); 57. Gary Player (RSA); 58. Tom Watson (USA); 59. Raymond Floyd (USA); 60. Jack Nicklaus (USA); 61. Gary Player (RSA); 62. Tom Watson (USA); 63. Raymond Floyd (USA); 64. Jack Nicklaus (USA); 65. Gary Player (RSA); 66. Tom Watson (USA); 67. Raymond Floyd (USA); 68. Jack Nicklaus (USA); 69. Gary Player (RSA); 70. Tom Watson (USA); 71. Raymond Floyd (USA); 72. Jack Nicklaus (USA); 73. Gary Player (RSA); 74. Tom Watson (USA); 75. Raymond Floyd (USA); 76. Jack Nicklaus (USA); 77. Gary Player (RSA); 78. Tom Watson (USA); 79. Raymond Floyd (USA); 80. Jack Nicklaus (USA); 81. Gary Player (RSA); 82. Tom Watson (USA); 83. Raymond Floyd (USA); 84. Jack Nicklaus (USA); 85. Gary Player (RSA); 86. Tom Watson (USA); 87. Raymond Floyd (USA); 88. Jack Nicklaus (USA); 89. Gary Player (RSA); 90. Tom Watson (USA); 91. Raymond Floyd (USA); 92. Jack Nicklaus (USA); 93. Gary Player (RSA); 94. Tom Watson (USA); 95. Raymond Floyd (USA); 96. Jack Nicklaus (USA); 97. Gary Player (RSA); 98. Tom Watson (USA); 99. Raymond Floyd (USA); 100. Jack Nicklaus (USA); 101. Gary Player (RSA); 102. Tom Watson (USA); 103. Raymond Floyd (USA); 104. Jack Nicklaus (USA); 105. Gary Player (RSA); 106. Tom Watson (USA); 107. Raymond Floyd (USA); 108. Jack Nicklaus (USA); 109. Gary Player (RSA); 110. Tom Watson (USA); 111. Raymond Floyd (USA); 112. Jack Nicklaus (USA); 113. Gary Player (RSA); 114. Tom Watson (USA); 115. Raymond Floyd (USA); 116. Jack Nicklaus (USA); 117. Gary Player (RSA); 118. Tom Watson (USA); 119. Raymond Floyd (USA); 120. Jack Nicklaus (USA); 121. Gary Player (RSA); 122. Tom Watson (USA); 123. Raymond Floyd (USA); 124. 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FOOTBALL: CONTRASTING TALE OF THE HERO AND THE VILLAIN AT WHITE HART LANE

Last-minute Rush surprises Clemence

By Stuart Jones  
Football Correspondent

Tottenham Hotspur 1  
Liverpool 2

The tale of two goalkeepers unfolded at White Hart Lane and in front of the BBC's cameras yesterday afternoon. One, Clemence, was a hero. Before conceding the decisive goal in the final minute, he frustrated his former employer, Liverpool, with a succession of remarkable saves in the second half.

One of them, from Johnston, was particularly memorable and the suggestion was that if he had not declined the invitation to join the England squad during the forthcoming World Cup finals, Bobby Robson might have been tempted to prolong his international career.

The other, Grobbelaar, was potentially the villain. It has been estimated that his errors have already cost his club some 15 Canon League points this season and, if Tottenham's contribution had not fallen away, his critics might have been presented with another one or two points to add to their argument and after he had committed another awful blunder.

Grobbelaar cannot use the conditions as an excuse. The goalkeeper, who delights in his new soubriquet of "Dropalot", hopelessly misjudged the flight of Hoddie's corner in the second minute. He was under no particular pressure at the time and looked resigned to his own embarrassing fate as he turned to watch Waddle win the race for the loose ball on the line.

Kenny Dalglis, again reluctant to pick himself, lost his managerial gamble last weekend when Grobbelaar, suffering from a damaged elbow, conceded the first and ludicrously soft goal against Everton. Dalglis drafted another goalkeeper into his squad for yesterday's match and must now be asking yet again how long he can afford to carry such a costly liability. Liverpool might well have

been two down five minutes later, although Grobbelaar, the victim of many cruel taunts, was not to blame. Hoddie, with a typically penetrating through ball, and Chiodzie, accelerating down the right, were responsible for providing Waddle with an equally open opportunity. Blinded perhaps by the dazzling sun, he headed over.

Tottenham, lifted by their first League victory as well as their first League goals of the year at Sheffield Wednesday last Saturday, continued to be the more lively and the more determined side on a surface which became increasingly more difficult.

The front two were supported by Molby, a man for all positions, but Liverpool were forced to concentrate so heavily on protecting their wildly eccentric goal keeper that it was not until early in the second half that they produced attacking ideas of their own. McMahon, the first to strike, was denied spectacularly by Clemence.

Molby, the second to step into the firing line, was thwarted by the woodwork. But the pressure they applied was growing almost by the minute and after sixty-six, with Tottenham in considerable disarray, they equalised. The ball ricocheted from one side to the other of their area in front of Clemence before he was beaten cleanly by Molby.

The transformation was soon complete. Tottenham's midfield was obliterated throughout the closing stages as Liverpool's dominance became more and more unmistakable. McMahon, with a thunderous shot, all but lifted the bar off its hinges and Rush, from the rebound and on two other occasions, was blocked by Clemence before claiming the dramatic winner.

TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR: R Clemence; A Allen, D Thomas, G Madsbutt, P Miller, S Perryman, Stevens, N Falco, J Chiodzie, G Hoddie, C Waddle.

LIVERPOOL: B Grobbelaar; S Lee, J Beglin, M Lawrenson, R Whelan, A Hansen, G Gillespie, C Johnston, I Rush, J Molby, S McMahon. Referee: A Robinson (Hampshire).



Low-level attack: Chiodzie about to make a landing after being sent flying by Molby (Photograph: Ian Stewart)

Luton on course for club record

By Vince Wright

Luton Town 1  
Sheffield Wednesday 0

The result was predictable, for if any team were going to founder on Luton Town's artificial pitch it was Sheffield Wednesday. Wednesday's long ball game is mistimed to synthetic surfaces, which demand that passes are played directly to feet, and by the time they varied their approach it was too late. Luton were in no mood to surrender their slender advantage and were deserving winners.

Luton are well on course to achieve their highest ever League placing, their best being eighth in the first division in season 1957-58. Luton, who lie sixth, do not seem in the least

embarrassed at looking down on more illustrious clubs such as Arsenal, Tottenham Hotspur, Newcastle United and Manchester City. Nor should they, for they have many fine players and no obvious weaknesses.

Wednesday, in ninth position, have many fine players too, although that was not so obvious on Saturday. Sierland, who was switched to midfield in the absence of Blair, looked what he is - a defender being played out of position; Marwood was strangely ineffective and Thompson, once regarded by Wednesday as the answer to England's problems in attack, did not land a shot on target. Wednesday's defence was not blameless either as Hart and Shirriff often resorted to unfair means when trying to stop Harford and Newell.

There was nothing they could do to prevent Harford from scoring the winning goal after 16 minutes. A nicely timed clearing corner by Preece cleared Wednesday's full defenders and Luton's man of the moment hung in the air like a latter-day Tommy Lawton before heading powerfully past Hodge.

For a while Wednesday were rattled and Hart and Shirriff were looked for crude fouls on Harford and Thomas respectively. Then the visitors composed themselves but came up against a brick wall in Foster and Thomas, who must be second only to Lawrenson and Hansen as a defensive partnership in this country. With Thompson and Marwood kept at arm's length, the only threat to Luton came from the former Luton and Doncaster Rovers player.

Sweden, who tested Sealey with a couple of raking drives.

A big plus for Luton is the form of Newell, their impressive signing from Wigan Athletic. If he continues to perform as he did against Wednesday and the injured Stein, Harford's regular partner up front, will not be missed. Luton's manager, David Pleat, takes the credit here for a shrewd signing. The purchase of Nicholas also comes into that category. Pleat has made him more confident and positive than he was at Highbury, where his career went backwards.

LUTON TOWN: L Sealey, P Johnson, M Thomas, P Nicholas, S Foster, M Donaghy, P Hill, M Newell, M Harford, M Sierland, C Morris, P Hart, P Shirriff, M Thomas, P Thomas, G Shaw, G Shaw, G Shaw, G Shaw, G Shaw. Referee: O Azzali (Southend).

Paine packs away the pleasure of celebrated repeat

By Clive White

Southampton 1  
Manchester United 0

Another memory was happily packed away by Terry Paine, who collected a few in his 617 appearances across 17 years for Southampton, when he flew home to South Africa yesterday. What better way to round off a week in which he and other former Saints had come together to enjoy a repeat of Southampton's most famous victory achieved 10 years ago in the FA Cup final, when Paine, Wembley and, coincidentally, by the same score.

In such an atmosphere of celebration his achievement was far less shocking to Manchester United than it was in that FA Cup Final, yet it may prove to be that United will have as much reason to shudder at the memory of Cockfield's impressive left-foot goal as that of Stokes all those years ago. It is a defeat which leaves them six points, if a game in hand, behind Everton, who are maintaining the best Merseyside tradition of excellence coupled with consistency.

United will shudder, too, at the memory of the Dell pitch which, despite a thick carpet of snow, was pronounced fit by Roger Milford, the referee. United's supporters may feel cheated to ask: "Sweetie, certainly not football as intricate as Strachan and Olsen know it. The conditions favoured the more direct style of no-nonsense types like Cisse and Lawrence. But the ball did roll and the density of the snow made it safe for the players. Even a glum Ron Atkinson, vigorously chewing his Wrigleys presumably to prevent him saying too much, had to admit: "The pitch allowed for a bit of life and excitement."

That was as much as we could hope for of a copy of Sweden. The £30,000 Southampton were due to collect from advertising in transmitting the game to Sweden, was one reason for ensuring that it went ahead. A better one was that, in the

aftermath of the assassination of the Prime Minister, Olaf Palme, it was the only entertainment to be shown on Swedish television on Saturday. Mr Palme was an avid football fan.

Another had Robson back after his Roker Park vilification and Tel Aviv heroics but he never got himself into a position where he could defend Southampton as he had Israel. United's attack was found sadly and unnecessarily wanting. Only Atkinson knows why he chose to leave the shop of the late Terry Gibson in cold storage until the 63rd minute, while Shilton displayed the mobility of a snowman. Within seconds of coming on Gibson's feet leaped Shilton into his own, a desperate one at that.

For the most part Wright kept a disciplined check on Hughes, though the Welshman did set up Colin Gibson with three minutes remaining. But he was either dazzled by the opportunity or the fluorescent green of the orange ball which he booted over the bar from 10 yards. He probably already knew it was not his day. It was from his strong obligation for Cockfield to dispatch past Turner in the 81st minute. If his spirit by the end was not fractured enough, Gibson was later found nursing a suspected broken nose.

United, with one win in their last five League games (like Southampton), have some catching up to do to regain the muscle (which reminds one that Whiteside is available again after suspension) before Wednesday when they take on West Ham at Upton Park in a delayed FA Cup 4th round tie. Otherwise they may be left with more painful memories.

SOUTHAMPTON: G Forder, R James, J Case, M Wright, K Bond, Lawrence, G Cockfield, S Moran, D Armstrong, D Wallace.

MANCHESTER UNITED: G Turner, M McGuff, K Moran, B Robson, G Strachan, M Hughes, P Stapleton, J O'Brien, T Gibson. Referee: R Milford (Bristol).

Bone-hard pitches provide a serious threat for players

By Paul Harrison

As football continues to be trapped in winter's freezer box, the dangers of playing on bone hard pitches become more apparent. Last Saturday, Andy Rogers, of Reading, was close to death after hitting the ground at the Wetch Field, Swansea. He had stopped breathing before the club physiotherapist revived him. On Wednesday evening, against Derby County, Mario Hodge, the Sheffield Wednesday goalkeeper crashed on to his head suffering cuts and concussion.

On Saturday, two more goalkeepers were injured. Keith Waugh, of Bristol City, was carried off against Blackpool, and so was Phil Hatcher of Preston North End, at Hereford. Roder's late goal for Newcastle United beat an Arsenal side reduced to 10 men, the visitors having lost Woodcock in the

first half and O'Leary in the second. For Newcastle Beardsley also had to go off.

Clearly the vigorous form the English game takes heightens the risk of injury to the prevailing conditions. It is a physiotherapist's job to monitor those who are harder at work than usual on football's behalf. Clubs with least to worry about are those who can either ignore or control the effects of the weather: the under-18 plastic pitches or under-soil heating.

Everton, Manchester City and Oldham Athletic are members of the latter fraternity and all played on Saturday, although with mixed fortunes. Everton had Sharp and Lincker to thank for the goals that put their six points clear at the top of the first division. Manchester City slumped 3-0 to Oxford United, who were inspired by Rhoades-

Brown at Maine Road; Oldham could only share the points with Millwall.

Portsmouth's ambitions are also currently being stunted. They lost to a goal from Carner of Blackburn Rovers, at Woodway Park, and the weekend before Oldham had won at Fratton Park. Alan Ball, the Portsmouth manager, must be beginning to believe that his fellow Lancastrians have got something against him.

There were notable happenings elsewhere: Birmingham City scored their first home win since September against Queen's Park Rangers, with goals from Clarke and Hopkins. Wigan Athletic, 32 games unbeaten at home, drew 1-1 at Chesterfield, and Orient were the only team to play in London. Unfortunately, to spoil the script, they lost 3-1 to Wrexham.

Runcorn reach third semi-final of season

By Paul Newman

Although four of the eight FA Trophy third rounds take place on Saturday, Runcorn are through to the semi-finals of the competition for the fourth time in 11 seasons. The Merseyside club won 2-1 away to Kiddersminster Harriers on Saturday in front of a crowd of more than 2,000 to move a step closer to their first Wembley final.

Tuohy gave Kiddersminster the lead after 10 minutes but Runcorn equalized through a penalty by Lee seven minutes after the interval. An own goal by Richards midway through the second half put Runcorn into their third semi-final of the season; they also have hopes of winning the Cheshire Senior Cup and Bob Lord Trophy.

The difficulties faced by other clubs trying to complete Trophy

ties were highlighted by the experiences of South Bank on Saturday. The Drybroughs Northern League club were nearly half way to Wigan when they discovered that their third round tie had been postponed yet again.

Helping hands

Four hundred Brighton supporters helped clear the Goldstone ground of snow yesterday in an attempt to save today's FA Cup replay with Peterborough. The referee, Alan Gunn, will make an inspection at 9.15 this morning.

Pat Beasley

Pat Beasley, who played for the successful Arsenal team of the 1930s, has died at the age of 76. He played for England against Scotland in 1939.

Scotland find sharpshooter in three-goal McCoist

By Hugh Taylor

A convincing 3-1 victory over Hibernian at Ibrox, brightened Rangers' hopes of ending one of their most disappointing seasons with "a consolation prize. A place in European competition seems certain if they continue to play with the commitment and deadly finishing shown on Saturday. It was their first victory in the premier division in six weeks and so far ahead were they of opponents lacking in drive that they could have won by an even more comfortable margin.

All three goals were scored by McCoist, whose sparkling display added evidence to his claim that he is the sharpshooter to solve Scotland's attack problems in the World Cup team. Dundee, Rangers' rivals for a place in the UEFA Cup, helped

their cause with a 4-0 win over Clydebank at Denis Park. They were so far ahead of their opponents that they had to play goalkeeper by Gallacher prevented their reaching double figures. Again the outstanding player was a centre forward in peak form. The Clydebank defenders were bewildered by the dash and shooting power of Stephen, who scored three goals to bring his total for the season to 16. Harvey scored the other goal.

There is still no hint of reconciliation between the dissident nine clubs who have broken away from the Scottish League and the verbal war between them became fiercer at the weekend. A veiled threat by Wallace Mercer, the chairman of Hearts of Midlothian, who is a spokesman for the rebel new

national league, that Scotland's World Cup plans could be threatened if the SFA placed a football public becoming daily more irritated with the prolonged battle for power.

Mercer indicated that if the nine were not supported by the Scottish Football Association when their constitution came up for debate many of the independent based players in the World Cup squad could be withdrawn. He explained: "We all want to provide players for Scotland's international team but if we are not supported by the minor associations and the SFA council we could be in a difficult civil war situation by the middle of the month. So why should we subsidize players and then give them to the SFA for their World Cup team for nothing?"

WEEKEND FOOTBALL RESULTS AND TABLES

Table with columns for First division, Second division, Third division, Fourth division, Scottish premier division, Scottish first division, Scottish second division, Vauxhall Opel League, OXFORDSHIRE SENIOR CUP, SKOL FIRST DIVISION CUP, SOUTHERN AMATEUR LEAGUE, SOUTH MIDLANDS LEAGUE, SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE, IRISH LEAGUE, HERTS SENIOR CENTENARY TROPHY, GREAT MILLS WESTERN LEAGUE, HALLS BREWERY HOLLAND LEAGUE, FA TROPHY, GOLA LEAGUE, SOUTHERN LEAGUE, VALINHALL OPEL LEAGUE, FOOTBALL COMBINATION, BUILDING SOCIETY EASTERN LEAGUE, BUILDING SOCIETY WESTERN LEAGUE, COMBINED COUNTIES LEAGUE, DEVON CHALLENGE CUP.

JUDO

Table with columns for Surprise defeat for Gordon, Kelly rewrites his prologue, Voom wins, New sponsor, TODAY'S FIXTURES, FA Cup, Fifth round, Fifth round replays, Fourth division, Scottish Cup, Fourth round, RUFGY UNION, OTHER SPORT.

CYCLING

Table with columns for Surprise defeat for Gordon, Kelly rewrites his prologue, Voom wins, New sponsor, TODAY'S FIXTURES, FA Cup, Fifth round, Fifth round replays, Fourth division, Scottish Cup, Fourth round, RUFGY UNION, OTHER SPORT.

OXFORD TORPIDS

Table with columns for FA TROPHY, GOLA LEAGUE, SOUTHERN LEAGUE, VALINHALL OPEL LEAGUE, FOOTBALL COMBINATION, BUILDING SOCIETY EASTERN LEAGUE, BUILDING SOCIETY WESTERN LEAGUE, COMBINED COUNTIES LEAGUE, DEVON CHALLENGE CUP.

RUGBY UNION: MELVILLE'S MEN MUST BEWARE INDISCIPLINE AS THEY MAKE THEIR LAST CHALLENGE FOR TITLE

England rise out of the pit as the pendulum swings firmly to Paris

By David Hands
Rugby Correspondent

It will be nice going into the last game with something to play for. Martin Green, England's coach, mused after watching his team beat Ireland by three goals...

Green is under no illusions about the welcome waiting in Paris but it is four years since England won two matches in a five nations championship season...

Those are the buffers of fortune England can do without. More particularly, there were buffers struck by players who should know better...

There may be those who will carp that this was an indifferent game between two indifferent sides...

Let us, just for once, look at the positive side of the coin. England made the most of the area where they enjoyed an outstanding advantage...

first game. His support work and ball handling, on a bitterly cold day, were of the highest order and his intelligent reading of the game made one ache that he had not been chosen earlier.

He benefited from the ball-playing presence of Rees alongside him. The Nottingham flanker reached many breakdowns first...

One of the curiosities was that England did not maintain their first-half lineup presence. This may have been because Chilcott...

Ireland led by one point at the interval. Ringland twisted out of two-fifths to score on the blind side of a five metre scrum...

You would have had to go a long way to find some rugby on Saturday. Once again the freezing weather reduced the club programme to almost nothing...

Nottingham were lucky. They play Wakefield in the fourth round of the cup at College Grove next Saturday and put in some much needed preparation...

for a pushover. Lenihan's lineup change, published the position for Mullis's try before Andrew's only successful penalty made the half-time score 10-9.

England's best football came after Richards's first try when they led 15-13. Melville sneaked off down the blind side...

There must be praise for the outstanding refereeing of Clive Norring, who defused two potentially explosive situations and left no one in any doubt over how the laws were to be applied.

With 10 minutes to go at the National Stadium on Saturday, Wales trailing by two points at 15-17, memories of Murrayfield earlier in the season must have come flooding back to the French...

What is certain is that had such an event arisen here, and Wales had assumed such control, it would have been grossly unjust. They had kept in touch by the simple virtue of Thorburn's incredible boot...



A loose forward cuts loose: Richards, the England No 8 and double try scorer, gets the ball away. (Photograph: Ian Stewart)

Welsh unable to tip the balance

By Gerald Davies

Table with 2 columns: Wales, France. Wales score 15, France score 23.

With 10 minutes to go at the National Stadium on Saturday, Wales trailing by two points at 15-17, memories of Murrayfield earlier in the season must have come flooding back to the French...

If only Wales, in this crucial instant, had been able to boost a lack of forwards who could scrummage more authoritatively or glean some regular lineout possession...

France, so closely knit, were beginning to unravel at the edges. Phil Davies charged, was held and the ball went astray to

Berbizier who, on his heels and desperate, high but badly. The wind held it. Tiley, who had come in for Phil Lewis and had his best match for Wales...

As has been recognized hitherto, Wales, with very little authoritative possession, have had to make maximum use of what has been available...

The first tackle, so crucial against the French, of all people, to stop their rolling momentum, was missed; gaps were looked for and never appeared in a rigid defence...

A second try by Lafond, converted by Laporte, after knock-on by Sella, seemed to threaten an overpowering disaster...

Thorburn got his first penalty in the second minute, with Laporte dropping a goal a little while later after a long sweeping movement set up by Blanco...

After 25 minutes Dods slotted a penalty for Galla and a minute later Gary Millar added a try

The game, which was never consistently moving because of the many stoppages as much as because of the cold conditions, did produce excitement in patches. After Blanco's try, Wales had their most sustained period of attack in the game...

The other try came a minute into injury time in the first half when the Toulouse pair, Harvet and Bonneval, combined to set Sella up for the score...

After 25 minutes Dods slotted a penalty for Galla and a minute later Gary Millar added a try

CROSS-COUNTRY

Neuchatel perfect setting for English

By Pat Butcher
Athletics Correspondent

Tim Hutchings, the runaway winner of the national cross-country championship at Newcastle on Saturday, and Dave Lewis will spearhead an England team capable of wresting the world title back from the Ethiopians in the Swiss town of Neuchatel on March 23.

There is some doubt about Mike McLeod, who is finished fourth in the national championship. McLeod initially said he would not run in Neuchatel, but as early as Saturday evening he was considering it...

If McLeod does run, not only will that greatly enhance England's chances of success, it will also mean that four winners of the English National in the last seven years will be in the team...

They all gained automatic selection to the world championship team, as did Tony Milovosov in fifth place, his best ever, and Steve Binns in sixth...

Reports from Switzerland indicate that the Ethiopians have more to fear from the course than McLeod. There is no great tradition for cross-country in Switzerland...

England last won the world team title in Paris in 1980, but the altitude-trained Ethiopians, who entered the following year in Madrid, have won every time since then...

McLeod, an infrequent front-runner, surprised everyone by doing just that right from the start on the snowy Newcastle Town Moor on Saturday...

RACING: GEOFF LEWIS TAKES FANCIED LINCOLN HOPE RANA PRATAP TO GALLOP ON BARRY HILLS' ALL-WEATHER STRIP

Lambourn looking forward with relish to Festival

By Michael Phillips

If the promised thaw arrives in time to allow the three-day National Hunt Festival to get under way normally at Cheltenham next week, the large contingent of runners trained in or around Lambourn will not fail to look of fitness...

What is more, most are of the view that their horses may even have benefited from the break. They will be much fresher than they might normally have been come Cheltenham...

A surprise visitor to Lambourn on Saturday was Geoff Lewis, the Epsom trainer, who brought four of his own horses, including his Lincoln Handicap candidate, Rana Pratap...

Lewis showed as much dash as his horses as he scuttled here and there supervising things. Rana Pratap looked exceptionally well and the workout must have brought him on because he had a good blow when he was brought home and did nothing but a few quid on him (Rana Pratap).

Hill's all-weather gallop, which stretches nine furlongs up the famous Farlington Road training ground, was in perfect condition on Friday when Fuikie Walwyn and Rod Simpson worked their Cheltenham horses...

Nottingham get run-out

By Gerald Davies

merit table A game at the East Retford club ground. It consolidated Nottingham in second place behind Gloucester in the table.

The conditions were remarkably good. John Davies, Nottingham secretary said, and Nottingham, who were without Andrew Rees and Cook, scored six tries and afterwards reported no injuries...

With Dermot Weld planning to have Grassington his penultimate in a month's time, he is likely to be short of a gallop and the same remark may apply to the top weight and fellow Antwerp hopeful John Davies...

Several of today's probabilities at Cheltenham engagements, including Galmoy and Banker's Benefit, who head the weights in the Firmount Handicap Hurdle.

With 25 minutes Dods slotted a penalty for Galla and a minute later Gary Millar added a try

McLeod, an infrequent front-runner, surprised everyone by doing just that right from the start on the snowy Newcastle Town Moor on Saturday...

Dudie can spring surprise in Cup

From Our Irish Racing Correspondent, Dublin

rearranged the programme. Paddy Mullins and his son, Tony, could win the Chalmers Five-Year-Old Maiden Hurdle with NOIR SHOOON...

Larry's Bottle and Eddie Wee boast the best novice chase form of those declared in the Harcourt Novices' Chase. Eddie

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LEOPARDSTOWN

Going: good to firm (precipitation 9.30am inspection)
2.30 CABINETTE 5-Y-O MAIDEN HURDLE (€1035: 2m) (16 runners)

4.30 FIRMOUNT HANDICAP HURDLE (€1,242: 2m 6f) (17 runners)

5.0 KILGUBBIN OPPORTUNITY USD HANDICAP CHASE (€1,311: 3m) (11 runners)

5.30 ROCKBROOK FLAT RACE (Colts and geldings: 2966: 2m) (15 runners)

4.0 FOXROCK CUP EXTENDED HANDICAP CHASE (€2,070: 2m 4f) (13 runners)

4.0 FOXROCK CUP EXTENDED HANDICAP CHASE (€2,070: 2m 4f) (13 runners)

Cecil's plea on behalf of Cauthen

From Chris Moore
Königssee

Steve Cauthen, the champion jockey, will return to Britain within the next few days after spending three weeks in the United States being treated for an alleged alcohol problem...

With 25 minutes Dods slotted a penalty for Galla and a minute later Gary Millar added a try

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No chance of quick return

From Chris Moore
Königssee

Although milder weather is forecast for later in the week, there is no chance of racing making an immediate return...

With 25 minutes Dods slotted a penalty for Galla and a minute later Gary Millar added a try

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BOBSLEIGHING

From Chris Moore
Königssee

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Scharer bows out in style

From Chris Moore
Königssee

Erich Scharer yesterday brought to an end the most successful career in bobsleighing by capturing his fifth world title in his final race before retiring...

With 25 minutes Dods slotted a penalty for Galla and a minute later Gary Millar added a try

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TENNIS

# Jordan manages a victory over Navratilova at last

Oakland (Reuters) — The unseeded Kathi Jordan set Martina Navratilova, the world No 1, to her first defeat since the US Open last September to reach the final of the \$150,000 Virginia Slims Classic on Saturday.

Jordan's 5-7, 6-3, 7-6 victory took 1hr 16 min and was the first time in 13 months she had beaten Navratilova.

Lloyd, the second seed, struggled before overcoming Helena Sukova of Czechoslovakia, 7-5, 6-4 in a match lasting 1hr 45 min.

After her match with Navratilova, Jordan said: "I feel pretty good. I feel unbelievable. It is hard to describe. Jordan, who earlier in the tournament had knocked out Hana Mandlikova, of Czechoslovakia, the third seed, admitted to being a little apprehensive going into the match.

"I was nervous, but not real bad because I had everything to gain and I had to look on it as an opportunity to beat the number one player in the world. I came to the realization that what was the worst that could happen? I could lose, but it is no disgrace to lose to somebody like Martina.

Jordan and Lloyd were due to meet in the final yesterday.

**RESULTS:** Semi-finals: C. Lloyd (US) vs H. Sukova (CZ) 7-5, 6-4; K. Jordan (US) vs M. Navratilova (CZ) 5-7, 6-3, 7-6; H. Mandlikova (CZ) vs K. Jordan (US) 6-3, 6-1; H. Mandlikova (CZ) vs M. Navratilova (CZ) 6-3, 6-1; M. Navratilova (CZ) vs K. Jordan (US) 7-5, 6-4; H. Sukova (CZ) vs C. Lloyd (US) 7-5, 6-4.

**OKLAHOMA CITY (AP)** — Marcella Mesker, of the Netherlands, the fifth seed, defeated Candy Reynolds, 6-3, 6-1, in the semi-finals of a Virginia Slims tournament on Saturday. Lori McNeill, of the United States, beat her compatriot Beth Herr 6-3, 6-7.

**RESULTS:** Semi-finals: M. Mesker (NED) vs C. Reynolds (US) 6-3, 6-1; M. Mesker (NED) vs B. Herr (US) 6-3, 6-7.

SKIING



Liisa Savijarvi, of Canada, speeding to her first World Cup win in the super-giant slalom

# Savijarvi's Petrovic first out on his own

Furano (AP) — Canada's Liisa Savijarvi of Canada claimed her first World Cup victory yesterday when she won the women's super-giant slalom in the northern Japanese ski resort. Savijarvi, who started 34th, covered the 1,839-metre Furano course with 37 gates and a drop of 445 metres in a time of one minute 20.43 seconds.

Sieglinde Winkler, of Austria, came in second in 1:21.01. About 23,500 spectators watched the competition, in central Hokkaido, Japan's northernmost main island. Pam Ann Fletcher, of the United States, who started 42nd, finished a surprising 1:21.01. About 23,500 spectators watched the competition, in central Hokkaido, Japan's northernmost main island. Pam Ann Fletcher, of the United States, who started 42nd, finished a surprising 1:21.01.

Gullu, Norway (AP) — Gunther Mader, of Austria, produced a surprise by winning a World Cup slalom here yesterday, while Kari Petrovic, of Yugoslavia, clinched the season's slalom title, when his only remaining rival, Ingemar Stenmark, fell in the first run.

Mader recorded the fastest times in both runs down the Gullu track and beat Paul Frommel, of Liechtenstein, by 0.81sec, a large margin in slalom. His winning time was 1min 40.66sec over his two runs.

It was the first World Cup victory for Mader, who had won a combined event in last week's meeting at Are, Sweden. Frommel had runs of 49.83sec and 51.64sec for a combined time of 1min 41.47sec. He was only sixth after the morning run.

Petrovic, who finished third, went into yesterday's race with four wins and 10 points and had already secured at least a share in the slalom title. Stenmark had 35 points, could have tied with Petrovic had he won the last three slaloms of the season.

Stenmark, with 82 World Cup wins in his career, an all-time record in slalom and giant slalom, straddled a gate about 18 seconds into the first run and was disqualified.

It was a black day for Sweden, who have one of the world's leading slalom teams. Jonas Nilsson, the world slalom champion, missed a gate in the second run and was also disqualified. He was fourth after the opening run.

**RESULTS:** 1. G. Mader (Austria), 1min 40.66sec; 2. P. Frommel (Liechtenstein), 1:41.47; 3. K. Petrovic (Yugoslavia), 1:41.58; 4. P. Larsson (Sweden), 1:41.80; 5. O. Blomqvist (Sweden), 1:42.02; 6. J. Nilsson (Sweden), 1:42.02; 7. J. Winkler (Austria), 1:42.27; 8. J. Stenmark (Sweden), 1:42.27; 9. R. Zoller (Austria), 1:42.68; 10. T. Oesch (Austria), 1:42.79; 11. M. Buehler (Austria), 1:42.98; 12. M. Berthod (Austria), 1:43.43; 13. F. Jaggi (Austria), 1:43.49; 14. O. Moog (Austria), 1:43.68.

**WORLD CUP:** 1. M. Walliser (Switzerland), 2. S. Winkler (Austria), 3. P. Frommel (Liechtenstein), 4. P. Larsson (Sweden), 5. K. Petrovic (Yugoslavia), 6. O. Blomqvist (Sweden), 7. J. Nilsson (Sweden), 8. J. Winkler (Austria), 9. R. Zoller (Austria), 10. T. Oesch (Austria), 11. M. Buehler (Austria), 12. M. Berthod (Austria), 13. F. Jaggi (Austria), 14. O. Moog (Austria), 15. G. Mader (Austria), 16. J. Stenmark (Sweden), 17. A. V. Schneider (Austria), 18. J. Stenmark (Sweden), 19. G. Charvát (Czechoslovakia), 20. G. Charvát (Czechoslovakia), 21. M. Buehler (Austria), 22. M. Berthod (Austria), 23. M. Berthod (Austria), 24. M. Berthod (Austria), 25. M. Berthod (Austria), 26. M. Berthod (Austria), 27. M. Berthod (Austria), 28. M. Berthod (Austria), 29. M. Berthod (Austria), 30. M. Berthod (Austria).

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**LACROSSE**  
**Boost for the Welsh**  
By Peter Tadlow  
After three weeks without match practice the women's home international lacrosse season began unimpeded at the weekend with England beating England Reserves 7-4 on artificial turf at Crystal Palace and Scotland defeating Wales 6-3 on grass at Cardiff.

Wales did not start favourites but they were well satisfied with their performance against a strong Scottish side. The Welsh captain, Vivian Jones, said: "We transformed a 13-0 defeat against Scotland last year to a 6-3 this season. It has been a great confidence booster to us, as we prepare for the World Cup in Philadelphia this June."

Scotland's defence settled down to its work early in a game in which good goalkeeping by Annie Hooper (Scotland) and Nicola Amery (Wales) played an important part.

Defence was nearly the key to this game as Scotland made

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Thatcher attacked by Heath over BL

By Philip Webster Political Correspondent

The Prime Minister yesterday faced renewed criticism from within her own party as Mr Edward Heath attacked her attitude to the British Leyland sale and Mr Michael Heseltine fired another salvo at the Government's approach to industry.

Mr Heath, the former Prime Minister, pointedly refused in a television interview to endorse Mrs Thatcher to lead the Conservatives into the next election.

Asked if he hoped she would be at the head of the Conservative's election battle, he said: "We must allow things to be decided by the party."

He said that many people believed that the Government had already tied up the deal with General Motors and that the March 4 deadline was "a deadline being imposed against British would-be purchasers".

He said on TV-am that the British people would be "horrified" if the deal went ahead.

Meanwhile Mr Heseltine, the former Secretary of State for Defence, called for a new enhanced industry department with power and influence to rival that of the Treasury.

"For too long, and for historical reasons, the Treasury has dominated the industrial policies of this country," he said on the London Weekend television programme *Weekend World*.

Mr Heseltine said that all capitalist economies and governments were totally immersed in helping their industry.

Mr Heseltine admitted that his proposals would be unpopular with Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor of the Exchequer. He called for a new Cabinet committee, chaired by a senior government member, to co-ordinate the Government's broad industrial policies.

Business as usual for Moscow



While Soviet rulers deliberated in the Palace of Congresses in the Kremlin (report, page 5), it was business as usual for the citizens of Moscow, queuing for vodka (above) and going to the Bolshoi Theatre, below.



Frauds 'involved' £400m in bullion

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Reporter

Gold bullion handled by major City dealers, including Johnson Matthey Bankers, and worth a total of more than £400 million has been involved in serious VAT frauds detected by investigators over the past five years.

Since 1981 Customs investigators have brought a series of frauds to court and revealed total VAT losses of more than £60 million, a spokesman for Customs said yesterday.

Gold bullion handled by major City dealers, including Johnson Matthey Bankers, and worth a total of more than £400 million has been involved in serious VAT frauds detected by investigators over the past five years.

On Saturday the latest Customs investigation into allegations of VAT gold fraud resulted in nine men appearing in court charged with conspiracy to fraudulently evade VAT between July 1983 and the end of February.

Village Voice Postmaster shown the error of his ways

This week Victor Zorza tells how the people of a Himalayan village took the law into their own hands when a youngster embezzled money and delivered their own judgement, perhaps more just and certainly more effective than the sentences of city courts.

Only one village family did not have to depend for its food on its own crops and on the vagaries of the weather. If the rains came at the wrong time the other households might suffer, but the postmaster's family could always rely on his salary - or so it thought.

When his illness proved more serious than had at first appeared, his wife tried to cope with the paperwork, but she had neither education nor aptitude for figures.

He proved a very apt pupil

For the extravagant feast - chicken, no less - prepared by the widow. Everybody wondered where the money came from. They assumed that Chuni was giving the supervisor a monthly bribe - a frequent arrangement between a subordinate and his superior.

After each visit Chuni looked increasingly worried. He was now drinking heavily. Some villagers who expected remittances never received them. They had not arrived, Chuni said. The villagers knew that such things happened. One does not send money by post if one can help it.

The supervisor offered them sympathy, but no reparations. "Settle among yourselves," he insisted. If they did not, the boy would go to prison, the post office would be transferred, and the community would lose face.

Treated Chuni again as one of themselves

him that he alone would be held responsible and might spend the rest of his life in jail. He begged the village's forgiveness, sold some land and began to make payments.

There was no risk, they assured me. They had demonstrated to him the error of his ways and he had shown his contrition. Soon the villagers were again treating Chuni as one of themselves, as if nothing had ever happened.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements: Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother visits the Daily Mail Ideal Home Exhibition at Earls Court. 3.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,983

Crossword puzzle grid with numbers 1-27.

- ACROSS: 1 The brave man confined to bed will get a cigar (7).

Trust Station at Ripley, Derbyshire, 11.55; lunches at Ilkeston Park, Derbyshire, 12.45; visits the Charnos factory in celebration of their Golden Jubilee, 2.35; later opens the new Design Block at Trent College, Lang Eaton, Derbyshire, 3.15; and visits Birkins Lace Factory in Borrowash, 4.10.

Talks, lectures: "Hope and Faith", by Bishop Peter Selby, Sion College, Victoria Embankment, London, 5.30.

The Solution of Saturday's Prize Puzzle No 16,982 will appear next Saturday

Telemanni, Castello and Lechner, the University Church of St Mary the Virgin, High Street, Oxford, 1.15.

The limits of the law in regulating medicine, by Lord Scarman; King's College, London, 1.05 to 2.15.

Anniversaries: Births: Edmund Waller, poet, Colehill, Warwickshire, 1606; Alexander Graham Bell, inventor, Edinburgh, 1847; Sir Henry Wood, London, 1869; Edward Thomas, poet, London, 1878.

Nature notes: Many starling Redwings have flown in to the West Country and died there in gardens. To help the survivors, apples and dried fruit, like sultanas, are the best food to put out.

Parliament today: Commons (2.30): Debates on Welsh affairs and EEC social questions.

Portfolios: Industrial shares published in The Times Portfolio list which will appear on Friday, 12th March.

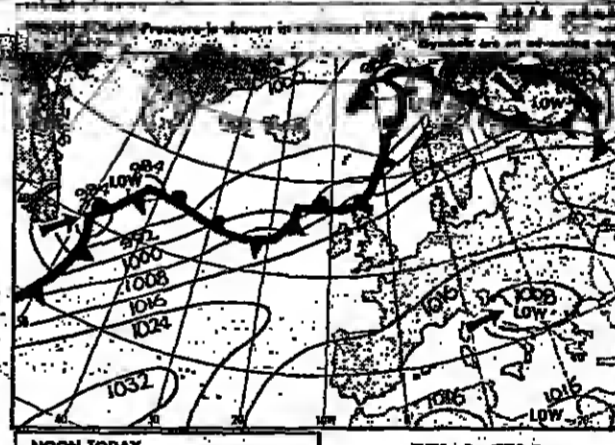
Roads: Motorists: Cambridge to junction 2/A4123 Duxley and Elm W and junction 3/A456 Halloway and Elm W.

Bond winners: Winners in the weekly draw for Premium Bond prizes are: £100,000 (CK 90 59 3); £50,000 (SEZ 504 663); London borough of Hounslow, £25,000 (2Y7000292)(Surrey).

The pound: Australian \$ 1.52, Bank of Canada \$ 1.21, Swiss franc 1.28, Japanese yen 162.50, Hong Kong \$ 7.75, New Zealand \$ 1.21, Singapore \$ 1.21, South Africa R 1.21, Taiwan \$ 1.21, West Germany M 1.21, etc.

Weather forecast

An anticyclone will persist as a frontal trough approaches N Scotland. 6 am to midnight. London, SE, central S, SW England, SE, central S, SW England, SE, central S, SW England.



High Tides: TODAY, AM HT, PM HT. London Bridge 6.0, 6.8, 8.9, 9.2. Aberdeen 6.8, 7.6, 9.7, 10.0.

Lighting-up time: London 8.14 pm to 8.10 am, Bristol 8.24 pm to 8.20 am, Edinburgh 8.21 pm to 8.25 am.

Yesterday: Temperatures at midday yesterday: C, cloud; F, rain; sun. Belfast 5.3, 5.7, 5.9, 5.4.

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